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FLASHBACK

MAY 1983

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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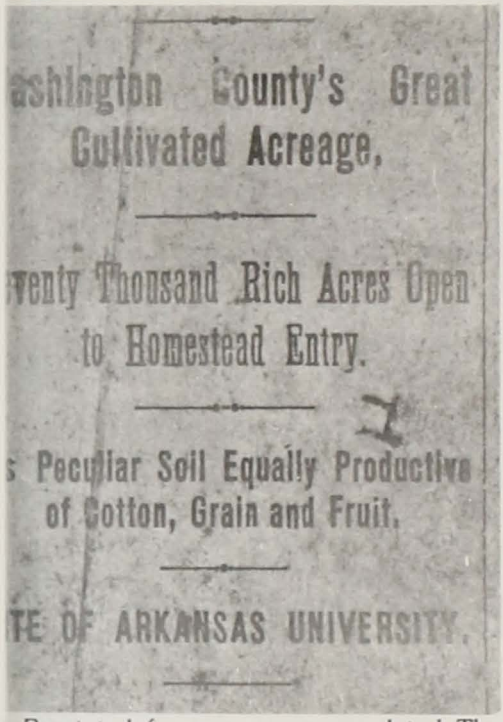

ashington County's Great
Cultivated Acreage.

enty Thousand Rich Acres Open
to Homestead Entry.

Peculiar Soil Equally Productive
of Cotton, Grain and Fruit.

TE OF ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY.

Reprinted from a newspaper dated The Republic, St. Louis, MO. April 5, 1897.

Fayetteville, Ark., March 22 - Arkansas is one of those "good things" so often heard about from the older folks who relate to their bored hearers how they could have bought land at this or that point for a song or a whole farm for what one acre will bring now. It never occurs to such ones that their hearers are sizing them up as rank idiots and condemning them for leaving a good thing and chasing a phantom as ma(n)y have done who went beyond. In the dictionary the "used-to-coulds" are declared to be the worst and most depressing class of cranks. Many farmers there are in Arkansas who passed this state by on their way West. They did not stop, but located on Western prairies. Their success was not what they thought it would be, and they came to Arkansas. The State a few years ago did not offer one-tenth the attraction she offers now, but thousands found it attractive enough in its native condition to locate here. The wave that swept Westward some years ago is returning, and this state is now at the beginning of a steady climb in population. Those who are here and have had the revelation of the soil's productiveness are telling their friends in all the States and they are coming in numbers every year. Though the growth in population of Arkansas between the years of 1880 and 1890 was large and the increase since 1890 was much greater, the great and varied inducements she offers to home-seekers, investors and promoters of industrial enterprises have been strangely overlooked. Each year, however, farmers and capitalists are obtaining a more extensive knowledge of her alluvial lands, navigable streams, water power, vast and varied timber and mineral resources, wonderful springs, delightful climate, rapid transportation facilities and variety of soil and altitude for every product known to this latitude. The next few years will see her receiving an increased share of the enormous emigration bound for the Mississippi Valley and the Southwest.

(Editors' note: Not all who came to northwest Arkansas were as sanguine of the state's future. Herbert Hoover, during his freshman (1892) summer vacation from the newly opened Stanford University, obtained a position on the Geological Survey of Arkansas. For the service he received $60 a month and expenses for three months — a fortune in those impecunious days. He recalls, "The work in Arkansas consisted of mapping the geologic outcrops on the north side of the Ozarks. I did my job on foot mostly alone, stopping at nights at the nearest cabin. The mountain people were hospitable but suspicious of all 'government agents'. Some were moonshiners and to them even a gawky boy might be a spy. There were no terms that could adequately explain my presence among them. To talk about the rocks only excited more suspicion. To say that I was making a survey was worse, for they wanted no check-up on their land-holdings. To say that I was tracing the zinc- or coal-bearing formations made them fearful of some wicked corporate invasion. I finally gave up trying to explain. However, I never failed to find someone who would take the stranger in at nightfall and often would refuse any payment in the morning.

"The living conditions of many of these people were just as horrible as they are today (1915-16). Generations of sowbelly, sorghum molasses and cornmeal, of sleeping and living half a dozen in a room, had fatally lowered their vitality and ambitions.")

Arkansas is not an exclusively cotton country, grain country nor fruit country, but as the records of her products show is well adapted to all. That her people are prosperous as a whole is proven by the last census reports, which show no State is freer from debt. In the matter of real estate debt per capita in 1889, Arkansas was one of the three states of the Union ranking lowest, and on the other hand showed second largest population to each mortage in force.

Different sections of Arkansas are adapted to different products, and the mountainous Northwest Arkansas, of which Washington County forms a most important part, is especially adapted to fruits.

Surface of the County

The general surface of Washington County is elevated about 1,500 feet above the sea level, and is diversified by hills, mountains, prairies and valleys. That part of the county seen from the Frisco railway, which traverses it from north to south, a little east of the center, would not impress favorably either the prairie farmer of the West or the cotton grower of the South. The railroad lies on the top of the divide between the Illinois River to the west and White River on the east, which is the roughest portion of the county.

The western portion of the county is comparatively level, embracing the Illinois Valley lands, the prairies around Prairie Grove, and the celebrated Cane Hill region. A remarkable feature of the last named section and one which attests its fertility, is the heavy growth of cane, paw-paw, walnut and other growths usually found in very fertile depressions or plateaux on the top of elevated land.

The hillsides, mountain slopes and valleys of Washington County are nearly all susceptible of cultivation or suitable for pasture. Although there is possibly no equal area in the United States possessing a larger number of streams, the

topography of the country will show by its crops that no land in the county is too wet for agricultural use.

Arkansas is admittedly a great agricultural State, and although the casual visitor and farmer, who has been accustomed to wide stretches of prairie country, might think poorly of the agricultural possibilities of many parts of Washington County, after having a mere glance at the country, will change his opinion when he learns the facts. The county ranks first of all of Arkansas' counties in amount of cultivated area. It is first in acreage and production of corn, first in acreage and production of wheat, second in acreage and production of oats, and produces so large a part of the apple supply as to make it the apple orchard of the world.

Hillsides as Rich as Valleys

A notable feature of the hillsides and mountain table lands of Washington County is the productiveness of their soil. It is said that these lands produce almost if not quite as well, as the valleys. Their chief value, however, is their adaptability to fruits, and especially the apple, of which Washington County is the largest producer in the State. In all the pomological exhibits of recent years Arkansas has come off first winner. She received first prize at the World's Fair, New Orleans, 1855, for best collection; "Wilder medal" for best seedling apple; the first prize at Riverside, Cal.; first award, Columbian Exposition at Atlanta, Ga. 1895. It will not be robbing the State credit to make known that the bulk of the apples on display at these expositions were from Washington County.

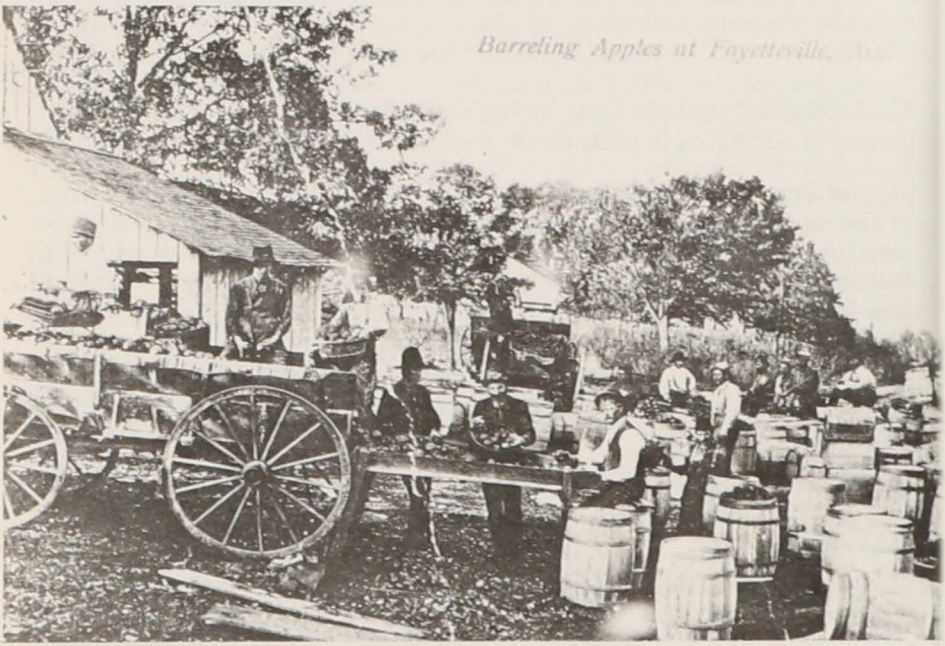
Apple Orchard of the World

The apples grown here cover about one hundred and thirty different varieties, besides 88 different seedlings, all of which reach a state of the highest perfection in this soil and in this climate. The great number of seedlings found here must prove that the combination of soil, climate, location and altitude of Northwestern Arkansas, makes it the natural home of the apple. Of this question, Prof. H.E. Van Deman, United States Pomologist, at Washington, D.C. says: "No man living can account for the production of choice seedling apples in Arkansas. An orchardist in the North might plant a bushel of apple seeds and the chances are against his producing one valuable variety, while in Arkansas if he planted a quart a score or more valuable seedlings would be the result. We state an established fact, and let the wise ones do the explaining.

The same gentleman, "Green's Fruit Grower", speaking of the Arkansas exhibit at the New Orleans World's Fair, says: "I think for beauty and size of specimens, Arkansas' show was unequalled; I think I can say this without prejudice, for I had charge of a display from Kansas on the next table." Colonel E.F. Babcock, who made the collection of fruit for this same New Orleans World's Fair, and who is an honored member of every horticultural and pomological society in the United States, says: "My sincere conviction is, that in no State in the Union is there a greater portion of the soil pre-eminently adapted to the perfect production of fruit. Nowhere else is there greater exemption from disease, or a more profitable market than Arkansas."

Richer in Apples

A remarkable apple tree was recently blown down on the place now owned by Mr. E. Little of this county. This tree was a seedling and supposed to be nearly 100 years old. The body of the tree measured 9 feet and 11 inches in circumference. One year soon after the war, 96 bushels of apples were gathered from this tree and hauled to Texas where they brought $8 per bushel, or a total of $768. There are numbers of farmers in Washington County who make from $500 to $3000 a year on fruit alone, without touching it, leaving it for the purchaser to handle. Apple growing for profit is comparatively new and the industry may be said to be in its infancy. While there are few farms which do not possess an apple orchard of some size, the largest single orchards do not exceed 160 (acres ?) in extent and these are few. A factor in favor of apple growing in this section is the time in which the trees begin to bear, which is usally four or five years after planting, become good producers in eight years. The question of overproduction is, under the circumstances, an absurd one, as the apple crops of Arkansas at present need never come in competition with the (rest of paragraph torn out).



Barreling Apples at Fayetteville, Ark.

Transportation Facilities

The Frisco railway furnishes a direct line of transportation for Texas points and St. Louis. Now that the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Road, which runs about 25 miles west of Fayetteville will soon be completed to Port Arthur, Kansas City, and more Southern points, these will be placed in direct communication with this section. Should it become necessary to go into Northern markets, the growers here have nothing to fear in the matter of competition,

as there is always a demand for the best of anything. While this section is pre-eminently an apple country, other fruits, such as peaches, plums, pears, cherries and berries yield finely and grape culture meets with great success. The varieties of grapes which do best are the Cynthiana and Norton's Virginia for fall crops, and Delaware, Elvira, Perkins, Ive's Seedling and Concord for earlier crops. Captain J.E. Trahin is an extensive grape grower and manufacturer of wine, who lives near Fayetteville. The captain is a Frenchman who thoroughly understands grape culture. He claims that on account of the dry weather which usually prevails here during the month of August that the Washington County grape makes a superior wine, which keeps better than that made in California.

Strawberries, Corn, Cattle Prosper

Strawberries thrive to such an extent they are also given attention. Many of the farmers along the line of the Frisco Railway are engaged in growing them for the market. The crop here begins to ripen about 10 days after the Van Buren berry begins to be marketed and about the same length of time earlier than the Jasper County, Missouri berry. Two miles north of Fayetteville on the Frisco Railway, the Fayetteville Fruit Growers' Association has 200 acres in strawberries. They will bear this year and it is thought will prove the finest crop in the State. The importance of the crop seems to be recognized by the railway company, as they have constructed a spur into the farm to facilitate

shipping. By next spring the association will have doubled their acreage. While everybody here is interested in the different fruit crops to which the country seems to be so peculiarly adapted, it should not be inferred that other crops are inferior for such is by no means the case. Corn produces 25 to 75 bushels to the acre. Wheat yield well as has been exclaimed (sic). Washington County leads all others in the State on wheat. Oats, rye, flax, etc. are grown with profit. Potatoes and vegetables grow in great abundance. Clover, alfalfa, bluegrass and other grasses produce more than average crops.

On account of the short, mild winters, the fine ranges, abundance of good water, little expense and care attached to it, stock raising is becoming a popular pursuit. There is no reason why the dairying business should not prove highly profitable here.

New Railroads and Enterprises

The timber supply of the county is abundant; every uncultivated acre has a good growth of merchantable oak of several varieties. Hickory, sycamore, ash, walnut, cherry and elm are found in sufficient abundance for building and cabinet purposes. There are also considerable bodies of sugar maple. The oak and hickory found here are well adapted to the manufacture of wagons and agricultural implements. There is an abundance of marble and fine building stone in the county. Indications of lead, zinc and other ores also crop out, but the extent and value of their deposit have never been determined. The field for development in this line holds great prospects for the future. There are indications of coal in many parts of the county. Ten open mines are continually worked for local use.

The main line of the Frisco and its branch from Fayetteville to St. Paul in Madison County to the southwest are the only railroads in the county. The Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf line, since it runs along the western border of the county, may be considered a factor in the transportation facilities.

The White River and Western Railway is a projected line which was chartered last year by some Massachusetts capitalists. The proposed route is from Stillwell, on the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railway through Fayetteville and the zinc fields of the counties to the east, to Bald Knob on the Iron Mountain Line. The preliminary survey for this road has been made from Fayetteville to Stillwell, and the route is thought to be practical. The citizens of Fayetteville have purchased the franchise and road bed of the Pacific and Great Eastern Line, which was constructed for seven miles to the east of Fayetteville and they have also contracted to donate this line and $40,000 additional to the White River Valley Company on condition that work on the new road will begin next July and be continued at the rate of five miles per month until 30 miles have been completed.

A preliminary survey has also been made from Elkins on the St. Paul branch of the Frisco, with Bald Knob as the objective point. In all probability, one or both of those lines will be built in the near future.

Some Washington County Advantages

The increase in population in Washington County has been steady. Between 1880 and 1890 the gain was 34.31 per cent. The population now, on a fair estimate, being 50,000 is a gain since 1890 of over 56 per cent. Emigrants have come here from every part of the country, but principally from Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. A good number has also come from Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. All things considered, there is abolutely no reason why the homeseeker should not come to Washington County, and many reasons why he should come here. To enumerate these reasons, health should receive the first consideration. Situated at an elevation

of 1,200 to 1,500 feet above the sea, and immediately between the excessive cold of the North and the heat of the South, the result is a cool, dry, bracing climate, with almost a total exemption from malaria and contagious diseases. Though not so rugged, the topography is similar and the latitude and climate almost identical with that of the Asheville region of Westen North Carolina. A body of prominent New York physicians have pronounced the Asheville climate and conditions the finest in the world. Pure air and equally pure water have justly given Northwest Arkansas the reputation of being the sanitarium of the great Middle West. Cold periods are of few days' duration, and there are only about 90 days in the year during which the thermometer reaches the freezing point. Snow seldom remains on the ground longer than two or three days, and plowing may be done in almost any season of the year. The summer days are pleasant and the heat is not depressing, as in the lower altitudes of the Northern and Eastern States. There is a continual breeze here in summer, and the nights are always cool. The rainfall averages 60 inches a year, and droughts are rarely known. There are no unpopulated parts in the county, and schoolhouses and churches thickly dot the hills and valleys. There are 13,562 children of school age. About 165 (rubbed out) school districts are in the county and over 175 schoolhouses. At Fayetteville, the county seat and principal town, are located the Arkansas Industrial University and the Government Experimental Station. Washington County gave $100,000 in bonds to secure this university, but has accumulated sufficient funds to liquidate their bonds, so that the county is absolutely free of debt and the newcomer finds no bonded indebtedness to shoulder.

What section with the other advantages possessed offers a home so cheap? Where an apple orchard of a few acres will alone support a family with no outside assistance and absolutely no effort on the part of the owner.

Seventy Thousand Homestead Acres

There are still in the county 39,000 acres of United States lands and about 30,000 acres of state lands, all subject to homesteading. Unimproved lands sell for $2 to $5 per acre and improved, at $8 to $25. The purchase of land in Washington County will prove a good investment not only to the homeseeker but to the capitalist, for if it was absolutely unfit for no other product than fruits, it could not remain long at these prices. It is as a whole enhancing (three lines worn away).

The census reports of 1890 show that there were only 1,010 negroes in the county and most of them are in the towns. The people are educated, intelligent and God-fearing and stand ready to welcome good people from any part of the country, regardless of religious or political affiliations. The old idea of political intolerance in Arkansas is a slander that has been thoroughly exploded. This statement will be borne out by any Republican newspaper here or in any other part of the State and there is a considerble number of them.

The county property consists of a substantial brick courthouse, one of the best jail buildings in the State and a Poor Farm.

The rate of taxation is low and tax assessments are based on a valuation

Fayetteville Square — Photograph taken about time of news article

of about 33⅓ per cent of actual value. According to the assessments for 1896 the total value of all real and personal property was $4,457,122.

There are twenty-five towns in addition to Fayetteville which is the largest and lies near the center. Springdale has a population of 2,500, Prairie Grove has a population of 2,000. Boonsboro has a population of 300, West Fork has a population of 150. Brentwood has a population of 200, Winslow has a population of 100. Pitkin has a population of 100. Goshen has a population of 200. Cincinnati has a population of 300. Evansville has a population of 150. Dutch Mills has a population of 150. Durkham (sic) has a population of 150 and Elkins has a population of 150.

Eduational Advantages

Fayetteville has been noted over 50 years for its superior educational advantages. A better location for seats of learning could not be found and its selection for the university could not have been improved upon even had there been no competition for it. Students may come here from any part of the country and on account of the altitude, pure air and water, feel no apprehensions about becoming acclimated. Out of an attendance of over 500 students at the university during the last year there was only one case of sickness and this of short duration and not serious. There is nothing which bespeaks more for a State than educational advantages and the Arkansas Industrial University should be the subject of keen interest and concern, not only of every citizen of Fayetteville, but equally of every native of Arkansas who possesses any State pride. The showing of Arkansas' public schools

made at the Chicago World's Fair has done more to break down prejudices held by strangers against the State than all other factors combined. It is not every State, by any means, that offers absolutely free the opportunity of gaining a higher education in the various branches. One thousand students of this State are entitled to free tuition at the University. These beneficiaries are distributed to the counties of the State in proportion to their population.

The following is a sketch of the history of Arkansas' chief seat of learning. This college bids fair to rank with those of the highest of any state.

Arkansas Industrial University

An act was passed by the Thirty-seventh Congress and approved by President Lincoln July 2, 1862, granting to the several States of the Union 30,000 acres of land for each Senator and Representative in Congress. The State of Arkansas by an act of her General Assembly passed in 1870 accepted the terms prescribed in the Federal act and received for her share a grant of 150,000 acres of land. Thereupon the State proceeded to establish what is known as the Arkansas Industrial University, and to set apart as an invested fund for its endowment, support and maintenance the moneys accruing from the sale of the lands donated by Congress for this special purpose. The act of Congress allows 10 per cent of the amount accruing from the sale of lands to be expended for the purchase of lands for sites or experimental farms, and requires the remainder to be invested as an endowment fund which shall remain forever undiminished and the interest inviolably applied to the purposes mentioned in the act. Any losses either of principal or interest which may occur to be made good by the State. By an act of the General Assembly, the university was to be located in the county or city offering the largest bonus. Washington County voted $100,000 and the city of Fayetteville $30,000. Thus the university found its site on a beautiful eminence amid the Ozarks, overlooking the town of Fayetteville. The bonds of the town and the county became the form in which the Federal endowment fund was invested, and on these bonds has been paid 8% interest, amounting to $10,000 annually, ever since the university was organized. By another act of Congress, passed August 30, 1890, the sum of $15,000, to be increased by $1,000 per year for 10 years, was appropriated to the institutions established in the several states and territories in accordance with the act of Congress passed July 2, 1862. A part of this appropriation goes to the support of the Branch Normal College for Colored Students located at Pine Bluff, Ark. From this source the university at Fayetteville will receive this year upwards of $16,000. The appropriations from the State Treasury average about $25,000 a year.

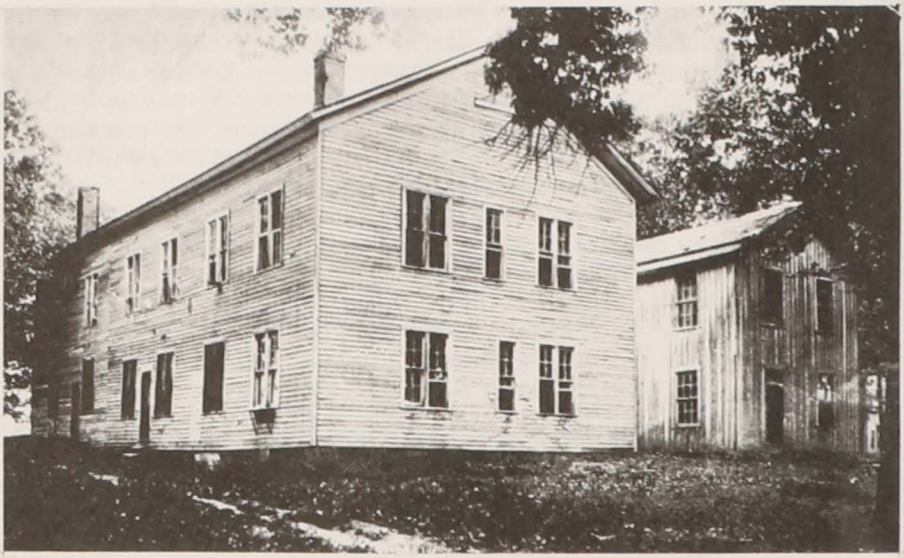
The university as the creature of the State and as the only State institution in Arkansas organized for higher education, looks to the legislature for the generous support which will enable it to meet all the demands made upon it. Besides the development of mechanics, agriculture, horticulture, military tactics, etc. required to be maintained by act of Congress, it includes in its organization all the other departments usually represented in a State University such as chemistry, physics, geology, minerology, biology (including en-

tomology, botany, zoology, etc.), psychology, ethics, economics, ancient languages, modern languages, pedagogics, music, art, etc. The professional schools of medicine and law are located at Little Rock. In — and variety of instruction that, it seems, its name should be changed to the University of Arkansas, inasmuch as the word university alone covers all the subjects that can be included in an institution of learning.

Some University Buildings

The chief structure of the university is University Hall, a brick structure with cut stone trimmings and a stone foundation. It is four stories in height above the basement. It consists of a front building 214 feet in length and two wings, each 124 feet in depth, the whole forming three sides of a quadrangle. This building contains a large number of class rooms, chapel, library and reading room, separate study halls for the boys and girls of the preparatory department, armory, magazine, band room, laboratories for engineering, biology and geology, music and art rooms, president's and commandant's offices, natural history museum, examination hall, literary society halls, etc. in all 70 rooms, together with broad corridors and stairways. The building is heated mainly by steam, lighted by electricity, and supplied with water from the city water works. Science hall was designed especially for the departments of chemistry and physics. The building is a two-story brick supplied with gas and water, and the best modern appliances for technical work.

There are two dormitories, one a substantial and handsome brick of three stories and the other a two-story frame building. These dormitories contain rooms for 120 students free.



First University Building. At time of this news story it was being used as one of two dormitories.

The building of the agricultural experiment station is of brick, one story in height. It contains the office of the directors, the laboratories of the chemist, horticulturist and veterinarian, the museum and several commodious storerooms. Belonging to the department of agriculture are a large barn, stock shed, dairy house, fruit house and other necessary outbuildings.

The shops building is of brick with stone foundation and iron roof. It contains floor space of 8,900 feet and provides a wood room, a foundry, forge shops, machine shops and boiler room.

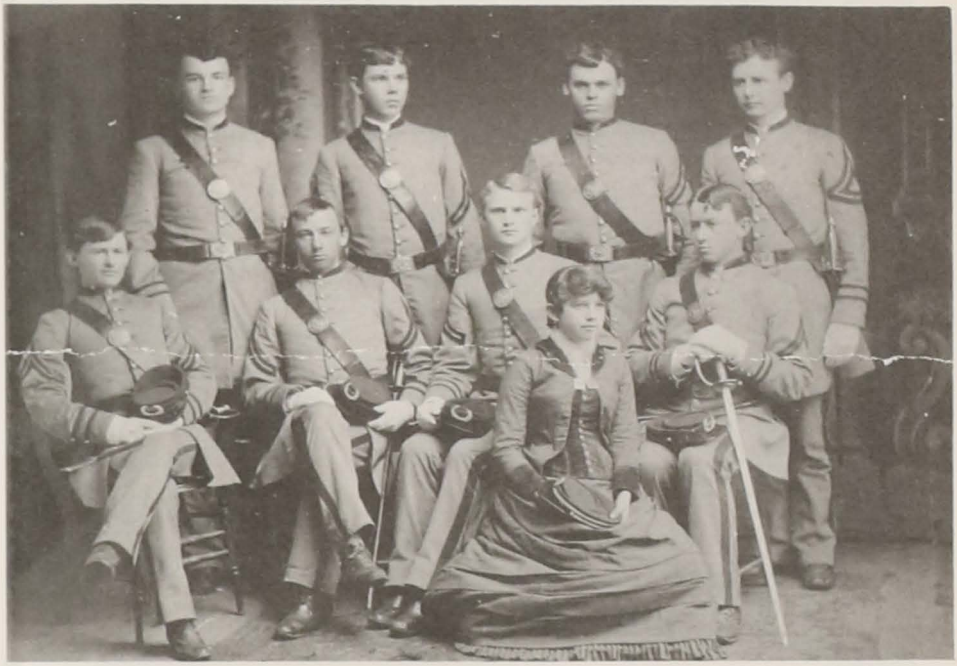
The total cost of the university buildings was $236,000. The grounds owned by the institution, 160 acres in all, are valued at $ (rubbed out).

The enrollment for 1897 is 544; about 327 males and 217 females.

The site of the university is a commanding one, on a high elevation in the northwestern portion, overlooking the city and the surrounding hills and valleys and offers with the passing of the days and months, an everchanging panoramic view of surprising beauty and sublimity.

University Military Department

The Military Department is one of the attractive features of the University. This being a "land grant" school, the teaching of military science is required. The head of the department is First Lieutenant Elias Chandler, Sixteenth United States Infantry. Lieutenant Chandler is a graduate of West Point and has been on duty here since March 1, 1894. The department is in a most flourishing condition and in high favor with the authorities. The cadets drill three hours each week and spend a week in camp at some time during the spring. This year the encampment will probably be held in May, at which



time the Cadets will be thoroughly instructed in guard duty and target practice. The equipment of the department is very complete, consisting of 275 Springfield cadet rifles, the same number of sets of equipment, set of band instruments, ammunition, tentage, etc. The number of cadets under instruction the present year is above 350. They are organized into a regiment composed of a staff, band, and two battalions of three companies each. They are well drilled and regimental dress parade is one of the novelties to be witnessed here. This is something to be seen in very few of the schools of our country. The band is composed of about 25 pieces, the members being taken from among those students who have a good knowledge of music. The leader is Frank Stewart, a member of the junior class and an accomplished performer on the cornet. One would have to look far before he could find a more gentlemanly or better disciplined and a more military looking organization of young men than can be found in the regiment of cadets of the Arkansas Industrial University.

Faculty of the University

The faculty now instructing at the university is composed of the following teachers:

J.L. Buchanan, A.M. LL.D., president and professor of psychology and ethics; A.E. Menke, D.S.F.C.S., professor of chemistry and physics; J.F. McNeill, B.S., professor of biology and geology; R.H. Willis, M.A., Ph.D., professor of English and modern languages; J.E. Howell, A.M., Professor of history and pedagogics; E. Chandler, Lt. U.S.A., professor of military science and tactics; J.C. Futrall, M.A., Professor of ancient languages; H. Randolph, A.M., professor of mathematics, logic and astronomy; Geo. M. Peck, Ph.M., M.E., superintendent of mechanic arts and professor of engineering; W.B. Bentley, A.M., associate professor of chemistry and physics; G.W. Droke, A.M., associate professor of mathematics; J.J. Knoch, M.S.C.E., associate professor of civil engineering; W.E. Gladson, M.E., associate professor of electrical engineering; Ida Pace, A.M., associate professor of English and modern languages; E.F. Shannon, A.B., associate professor of Latin; A.H. Purdue, A.M., associate professor of biology and geology; Jessie L. Cravens, B.L., instructor in elocution; Clara Earle, assistant in English; Anna Laird, instructor in instrumental music; Gertrude Crawford, instructor in vocal music; Amy Leverett, instructor in art; Mack Martin, B.M.E., Instructor in machine shop; B.N. Wilson, B.S. and M.E., Instructor in wood-working; Susie H. Spencer, librarian.

Preparatory Department — B.J. Dunn, A.M., principal of preparatory department; G.A. Cole, A.B., instructor of Mathematics; Mary E. Washington, instructor in English and geography; Naomi J. Williams, A.M., Instructor in Latin and history; Mrs. E.W. Cole, instructor in mathematics and history; Mary Davis, instructor in English, Linda Read, instructor in English and mathematics.

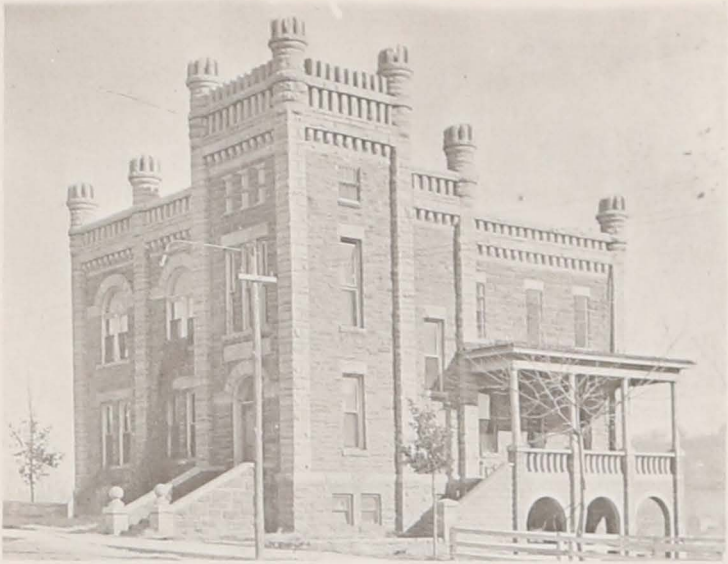
Experiment Station — R.L. Bennett, B.S., director and agriculturist; R.R. Dinwiddie, V.S.M.D., animal pathologist and mycologist; G.L. Teller, M.S., chemist; J.T. Stinson, B.S., horticulturist; J.F. Moore, B.S., assistant chemist.

Public Schools of Fayetteville

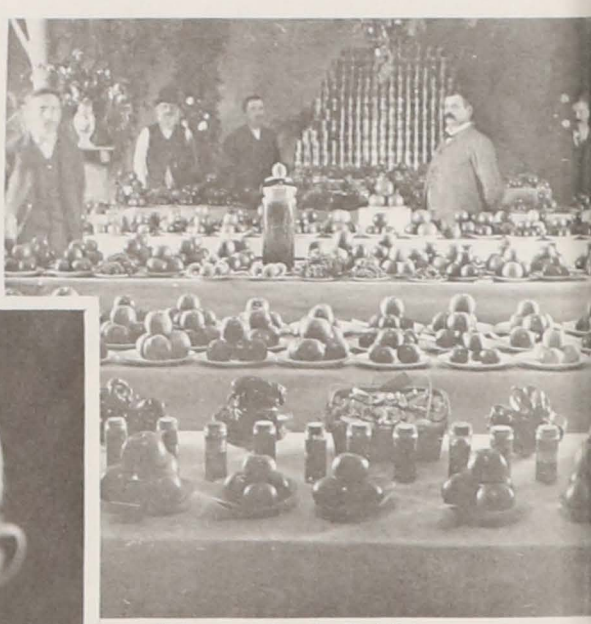
The public schools of Fayetteville are well equipped as to teachers and conveniences. These schools, under the superintendency of Prof. N.P. Gates, who was the first president of the university, and an able corps of competent assistants, have entered more pupils into that institution than any other in the State. The total enumeration of this school district is 1,614, of which 243 are colored. The average daily attendance is 853 white and 110 colored. The number of teachers employed is 12 white and two colored. The school property is valued at $20,000 and consists, besides the lots, of three substantial brick buildings. The public high school is accredited to the State University, its graduates entering the sub-freshman class.

Fayetteville Public School Faculty
N.P. Gates, Superintendent in the 1880s.

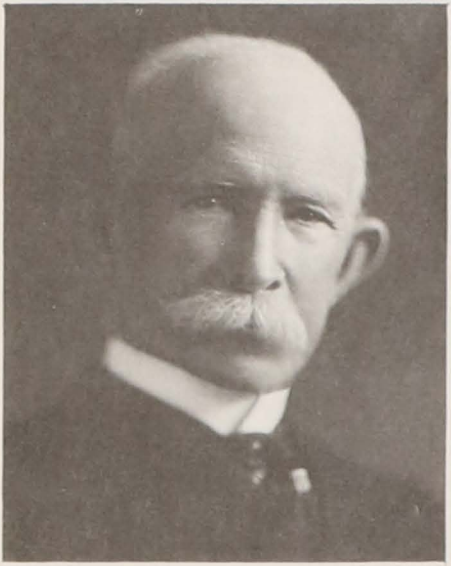
First Football Team 1896



"...one of the best jail buildings in the state" See text page 7. Presently WCHS office.



Arkanas' Apple Exhibit at St. Louis World Fair 1893 - see Page 3.



J.L. Buchanan, A.M., LLD, President, also professor of psychology and ethics. See page 12.

The Pin Indians

By Robert G. Winn

Few people outside of Northwest Arkansas ever heard of the Pin Indians. They were not a separate tribe nor even a recognized sector of the Cherokees whose members made up this small band of renegades who operated during the Civil War.

The following story is told here as accurately as possible from the narrative by Mr. Conrad Russell, a native of Cane Hill where he has resided practically all this life. He was born, as was this writer, at a time when the stories we heard at our grandfathers' firesides about the Civil War were as near to us as are stories of W.W. II to children born in 1983. So far as Mr. Russell knows, no written records remain about these Indians. He is one of the most reliable and knowledgeable historians of this region. He has a remarkable memory and has retained the stories heard in his youth — many of them about the Civil War.

ven more than sections of Arkansas that lie just south of the Missouri line to the north, the western border of Arkansas was doubly jeopardized by the fact that beyond the western boundary lay Indian Territory where the white man's law held no power. On the Arkansas side Indians were free from Tribal jurisdiction. Thus, outlaw gangs that frequented the area could step across the border from either direction and be free from punishment for crimes committed across the line. The Pin Indians enjoyed this advantage.

The Pin Indians derived that name from the pins they wore after completion of the courses in a school operated by a renegade paleface who had come with the Indians from their native Georgia and settled at a place some four miles west of the border town of Cincinnati in western Washington County. Their white leader, Jones, although there is no certainty that Jones was his real name, established a school for young Cherokee bucks who gathered around him near the small school. They spoke both Cherokee and English. Upon completion of the courses offered they received the pin inscribed with Cherokee lettering. So far as Mr. Russell knows, there is no record as to what this inscription was. He does not know that the inscription was seen by enough white men to read it.

What was taught in the school is not known, except that the leader, or instructor, an avid opponent of slavery, hated all slave owners and taught the young men to kill any slave owners they found. With their unbridled lust and training to kill, rob, and otherwise destroy, the members of the group did not limit their raids to slave owners. No man, woman, or child was safe from their unbridled passions.

From their hideaway west of Cincinnati they made frequent raids within a radius of a day's travel from their headquarters. They were always eager for a fight, provided that such a conflict did not incur much danger to themselves. Using Indian tactics they approached by stealth, did their dastardly deeds and slipped silently away before their victims, their families, and/or neighbors were aware of what had happened. After this pattern continued long enough, the pieces of the puzzle as to whom was responsible for these raids fell into place and the Pin Indians were found to be the culprits.

They were not an illiterate group. Jones was an educated school teacher and printer who managed to borrow enough money from a respectable money lender in Cane Hill to purchase a printing press on which he printed the literature used in his school. The pamphlets or booklets were printed in both Cherokee and English. Jones never accumulated enough cash to pay for the presses, however, and after the last raid when the Indians were scattered and the man himself was forced to flee to Indian Territory, he, not having courage to return the presses to the man who had loaned him the money for purchase, sent them and the type back by a man traveling in the direction of Cane Hill. They were later used to print pamphlets distributed among soldiers in the Confederate army.

Although the Pin Indians were Cherokees, the respectable members of the Cherokee Nation had nothing whatever to do with the outlaw gang.

Mr. Russell has had numerous articles published in "The Flashback." For three or four years during the mid-1970's he contributed historical articles to the Prairie Grove newspaper. He says he never submitted anything about the Pin Indians. We conclude with some degree of certainty that this is the first article ever published about this small group of renegade red men. Mr. Russell acknowledges that what he told me during our interview was hearsay — stories handed down by word of mouth from his elders and others who lived through those perilous Civil War days. He heard the same accounts from enough different old-timers to give credence to the stories that Jones taught the Indians to carry on their raids against all citizens they encountered.

This group of outlaws held no loyalties to either side. In Cane Hill and neighboring communities and in the valleys and on the mountains nearby were both Confederate and Northern sympathizers. The Pins raided them all alike; nobody could trust them. They would pretend to be friendly — then at the opportune time murder their benefactor.

Mr. Isaac Buchanan, a prosperous and prominent farmer, lived on the hill between Cane Hill and present Highway 62 — near Highway 45. One day, three Pin Indians arrived at his farm and asked for food, pretending to be hungry. Whether Mr. Buchanan recognized the Indians as the dangerous criminals they were and feared not to oblige them or merely thought they were friendly, hungry red men, he led them to his cellar where he gave them some apples. When the elderly Mr. Buchanan followed the Pins from the cellar and turned to close the door, they shot and killed him. This was

typical of their heartless murder and pillage. The Indians knew that Mr. Buchanan's three sons had already been killed by bushwhackers. With his murder, his womenfolk were left completely defenseless.

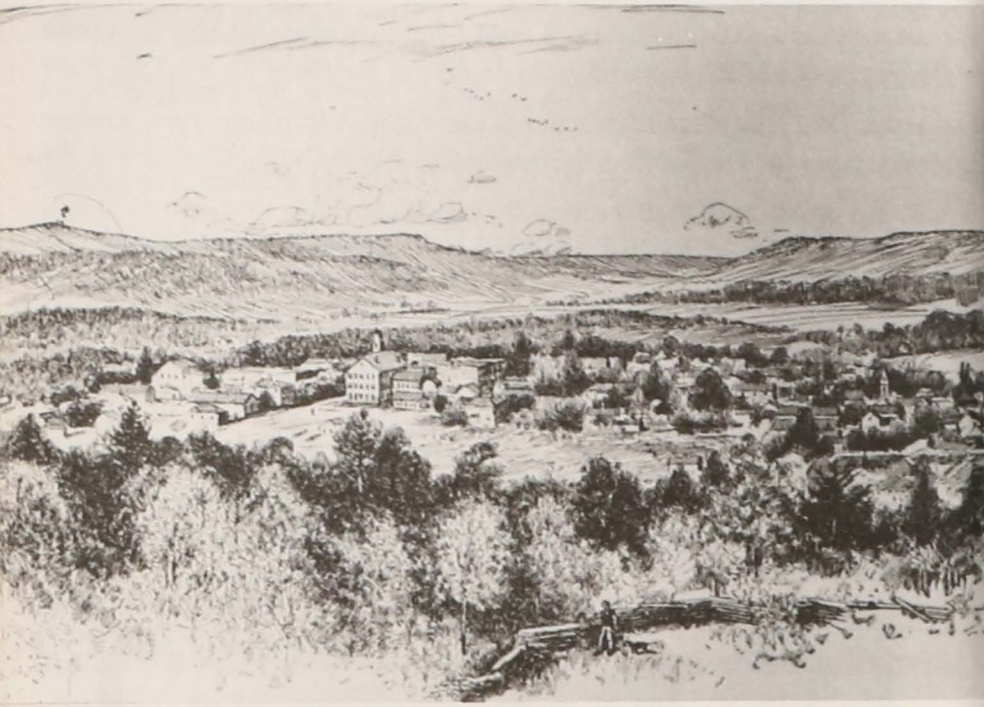
Such lawless activities continued until local citizens were compelled to take matters into their own hands. Confederate soldiers and other citizens who lived around Cane Hill collected guns and ammunition and hid them in a place known as Leach Cave. When they had enough weapons to accomplish their purpose, they stationed a look-out near the school from which the Indians started their raids.

Shortly thereafter, a large band was observed starting toward Cane Hill, intending to follow a frequently traveled route toward Dutch Mills, Clyde and Morrow, the Confederates set up an ambush south of Cane Hill. A little farther on, another ambush was set up, and still another one farther along the road they knew the Indians would have to follow. The soldiers waited quietly until the Pins were far enough past that they could not turn back. Then the Confederates opened fire. The Indians rode forward and into the second ambush where they were caught between the two. On they rode and into the third ambush. When they were securely trapped between the second and third, those from the first hideout rode around and established a fourth farther along the road. Their strategy was carefully planned, rehearsed, and executed. This method was carried out all along the road to the Cherokee border. By the time the renegades reached the border, not many of the 50 or 60 members of the group were left.

They never returned to harass the countryside. They were practically wiped out. This ended the raids by the Pin Indians. After this defeat by local citizens, the leader of the gang decided that his health would be better someplace else. He disappeared into Indian Territory.

THE POLITICAL-SOCIAL ELITE IN A FRONTIER TERRITORIAL TOWN: FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

By Jerry E. Hilliard Arkansas State Archaeologist

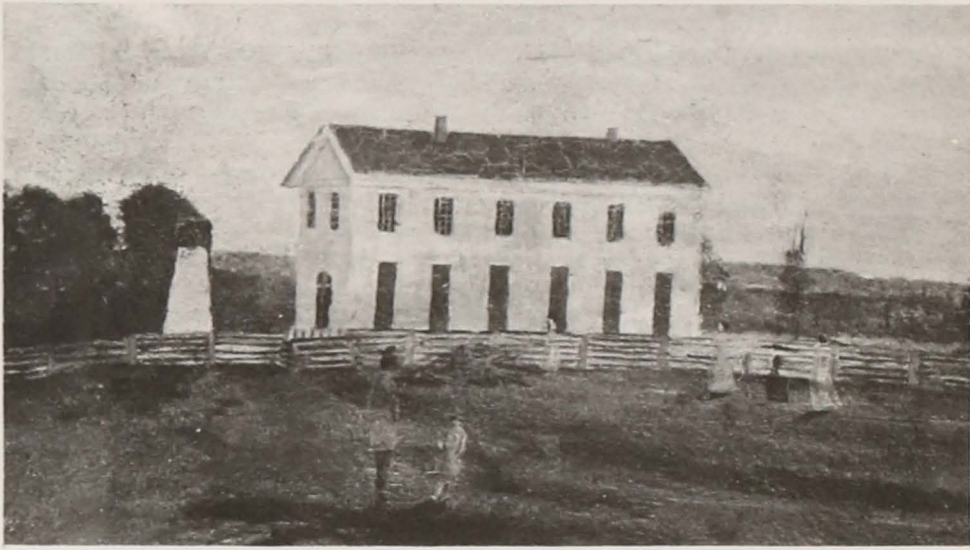


Fayetteville, Arkansas before Civil War

In 1828 the final western territorial boundary between Arkansas and Indian Territory was established. The previous western boundary, established in 1824 after the 1817 Cherokee Treaty, was about 40 miles west of the 1828 line. Although much of the land in western Arkansas, prior to 1828, was Cherokee lands granted by the U.S. Government, Euro-American settlement continued in the area and finally created enough ill feelings between whites and Indians to lead to the subsequent removal of the Cherokees from Arkansas Territory. The immediate impact of the 1828 treaty agreements was that northwest Arkansas Territory was officially open to settlement. All Euro-American settlers west of the boundary were coerced by the U.S. Government to move east of Indian Territory.

In January 1829 Robert Crittendon, acting governor of Arkansas Territory, declared that all persons not forming a part of the Cherokee Tribe, residing west of the line, must remove to the east side within 90 days. As compensa-

tion for their lands, the government allowed these settlers to claim 320 acres of unsettled land in Arkansas Territory. Goodspeed's History noted an eastward migration of settlers to Fayetteville from Cane Hill and other settlements at this time. Although Cane Hill was an established community before 1828, it was the newly established town of Fayetteville which became the county seat and territorial center of northwest Arkansas. The proximity of Cane Hill, Evansville and other settlements to the newly-defined Indian Territory probably inhibited their development. Certainly the lack of law and order was a factor influencing settlement and stability along this western corridor. Family histories of settlers in the Cane Hill area indicate outlaws flocked to this border and 1830s circuit court records in Fayetteville show that murder was a common crime along the western border.



Painting of Cane Hill College, artist unknown

The scenario providing a stimulus for Fayetteville's growth was that of a newly-created western territorial boundary which officially opened northwest Arkansas for future settlement. Before 1828 only a few families lived in the present Washington County limits, and a number of these families were evicted in response to Federal policy regarding the 1817 Cherokee Treaty by a company of soldiers from Fort Givson in August of 1826.

As a result of Federal appointments, several families came to Fayetteville from 1828 through 1832. Archibald Yell, later the second governor of the state of Arkansas, came as a Federal judge, appointed by President Andrew Jackson. Matthew Leeper came from Tennessee after being appointed Receiver of the Land Office by Jackson. Others, notably David Walker, came to practice law in Arkansas Territory.

These political appointments by Jackson after 1829, and the role that Fayetteville was to play as a regional territorial center, had a profound effect on the town's development. A large percentage of the town's population

was relatively well-educated, and many families were economically well-to-do. The 1840 census shows that only four of the 157 whites could not read or write. The Fayetteville area became an early leader in the state's higher education. Early institutions were incorporated and financed largely by influential settlers like David Walker and James and Matthew Leeper. Sophia Sawyer, an early educator and founder of the Female Seminary, was praised in an 1847 *Arkansas Intelligencer* article: "She did a great deal for Fayetteville and Judge Walker, Dr. Pollard and Colonel Leeper admired and sustained her." Fayetteville Female Seminary, Ozark Institute, and Arkansas College, all located in the Fayetteville vicinity, were leading state institutions prior to the Civil War.

In the 1830s Fayetteville became a regional service center for the greater agricultural hinterland. the Circuit Court, U.S. post office, and Fayetteville Land Office District, which served all of northwest Arkansas Terrritory, brought people and business to the town from the surrounding area. These government offices, especially the U.S. Land District Office, made it necessary for many people to visit the town who might not otherwise have done so.

A temporary economic boost in northwest Arkansas in the 1830s was created by Indian removal by the government. Government supplies were bought when needed from local farmers and livestock owners to provision government troops and Indians passing through the Fayetteville area. One physician traveling with troops and Indians in 1839 described Fayetteville as he came for mail from an encampment about three miles north of town: "Beautiful situation. A good courthouse and bank house and other good buildings. Had a mean meal at The Brick Tavern."

U.S. Government appointments and federal offices provided political status for the newly established town and firmly tied Fayetteville to the political territorial scene in Fort Smith, Little Rock, and the nation's capitol. Land control in the Fayetteville area was also influenced by these appointees and other politically influential men like David Walker, Matthew Leeper and Archibald Yell were granted certificates for 80 acres of land subject to sale at Fayetteville. These men also bought city lots after Fayetteville was patented and surveyed in 1835. Walker acquired U.S. land certificates for hundreds of acres in the Fayetteville Land District. The lands in the vicinity of Fayetteville claimed and acquired by Walker and Matthew Leeper were strategic in the sense that they were prime agricultural lands, along major transportation routes, or city lots on the town square, subject to future business development.

Matthew Leeper, Receiver of the Fayetteville Land Office, probably had more direct access to land records and ownership titles than any other person in northwest Arkansas Territory. An only son, born in 1804 in Lincolntown, North Carolina, Matthew and family moved to Jasper, Tennessee where Matthew became a Mason in 1826. In 1829 or 1830, Matthew, his father James and mother Margret (sic), came to Fayetteville as a result of Matthew's appointment by Andrew Jackson. The Leepers claimed land in the name of each member of their respective families, including numerous

slaves. They owned all of the south side of Mount Sequoyah, down to the White River.

Matthew married Lucy Washington, David Walker's wife's sister, and built a house on the south side of Mount Sequoyah. Matthew buried his mother and father on the first terrace south of Town Branch, a tributary of the West Fork of the White River. His mother died in 1835; the exact date of his father's death is unknown, but he is mentioned in 1832 and 1833 court records as a 70-year-old Revolutionary War pensioner and a member of the petit jury of the June 1833 term.

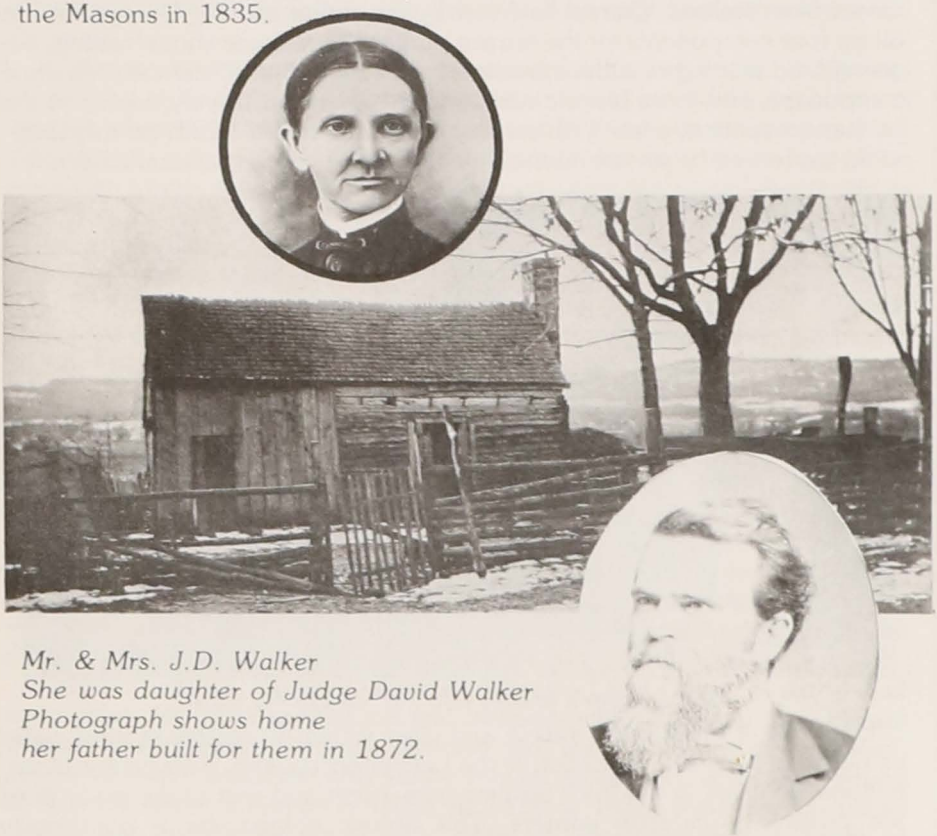
The site of this cemetery plot, possibly the earliest in Prairie Township, has been twice recognized in the twentieth century for its historical significance: first by the Marion Chapter of the DAR in 1927, and later in 1972 by Richard Watson who rediscovered the cemetery, finding it through thick underbrush. In 1972 the land was owned by the City of Fayetteville as part of a future industrial park site, and Watson was influential in the city's stabilization of the gravestones. Only recently has the archeological potential of the surrounding terrace been realized. Current fieldwork by the author and Dr. George Sabo indicate four components for the terrace portion. Systematic shovel testing, augering, and plotting of surface features have revealed a substantial prehistoric component, and three historic components — one tentatively related to the Leeper occupation, a late 19th century component, and a 20th century farmstead evidenced by an abandoned wool silo and other structural evidence.

Mrs. Leeper's grave, left; Mr. Leeper's, right.

Evidence of intact brick, rubble and glass within 40 meters of the Leeper cemetery are possible indication of the Leeper occupation. Two brick concentrations identified in the thick pasture grass north and east of the grave plots are possible foundation corners. This historic component is horizontally separate from the late 19th and 20th century deposits east of the cemetery. However, additional subsurface investigations will be necessary to determine the nature and age of the deposits surrounding the grave plot.

The Leepers certainly owned this land, but Matthew's known home stood about two miles north on the south of Mount Sequoyah. It is possible that his father and mother lived here, overlooking the valley north to Fayetteville and south to the White River. Another possibility is that Matthew had a town house, as well as a home in the country. At least one prominent Fayetteville family had this kind of arrangement prior to the Civil War. David Walker had a town and country home, kept slave servants in both, and used his country home as a base to oversee his farm, to hunt, and to hold social activities. Walker's country home was located on the West Fork of the White River, about two miles from the James Leeper Cemetery.

Matthew Leeper left Fayetteville in 1856 when he was appointed Indian Agent by President Buchanan for all Indians north of the Rio Grand and south of the Arkansas River. His accomplishments in Fayetteville include the building of the first jail in 1839. Archibald was commissioned to contract for a jail to be 42'x22', two stories high; Leeper built it for $4,460. He also constructed several homes in the Fayetteville area and was a charter member of the Masons in 1835.



Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Walker
She was daughter of Judge David Walker
Photograph shows home
her father built for them in 1872.

David Walker and Matthew Leeper continued to correspond after Leeper left Fayetteville. Walker acquired Leeper's former land on Mount Sequoyah, and in 1872 built a home for his daughter Mary and her husband,

James David Walker, This was the same site of Leeper's former home, which burned during the Civil War.

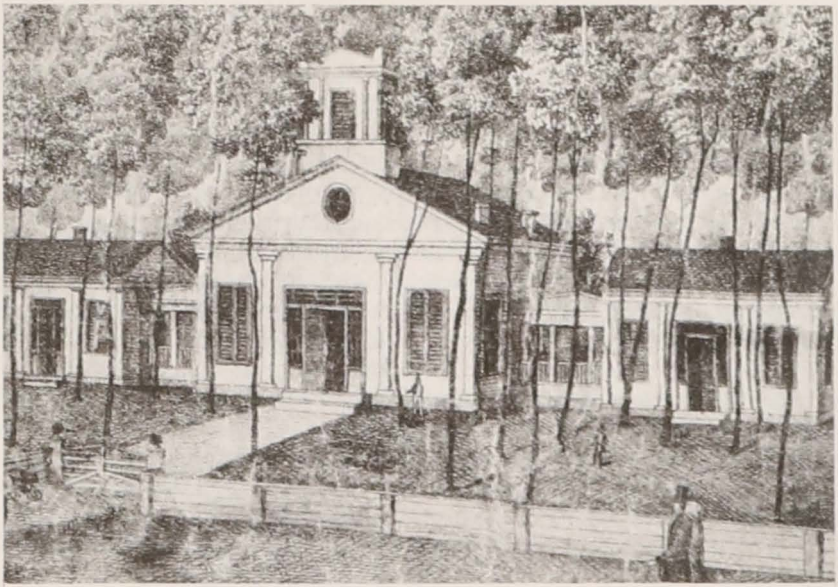
Leeper's role as Land Office Receiver and his social, political and family ties with other influential men provided a close-knit ring of affluence and power in the area. Despite the fact that Walker and Yell were political adversaries (Walker, on the Whig ticket, ran against Democrat Yell for a congressional seat which Yell won in 1844) they were social friends and at least once combined resources to acquire the same tracts of land. During the 1844 campaign, Walker, somewhat surprised to see Yell campaigning at a camp meeting in Columbia County, quipped to one of his Whig friends: "You can't beat such a man as that; he is all things to all men, and everybody believes in him. He is as popular with psalm-singers as with those who take their dram and shoot for beef."

An elite class arose in Fayetteville which may have been atypical of the Arkansas Ozarks during the late territorial period and until the time of the Civil War. Slaves in the town of Fayetteville comprised 25% of the population — 120 slaves out of a total of 425 persons. Some slaves were used in agricultural production of corn and other crops, but one study prior to the Civil War "although the precise statistics are not available, Washington County probably led the state in percentage of slaves engaged in non-agricultural types of work." House servant slaves were common. Probably other slaves were used in local construction projects and for business owners.

No on-the-ground locations of slave residences have been positively identified in the Fayetteville area. Such locations would be highly significant in interpreting slave life in this area, which may also be atypical of Arkansas slave life, especially for counties noted for cotton production. James Doolin, in a 1980 FLASHBACK article, suggests that diet and general material welfare for salves in Washington County was at a higher level than most of Arkansas because of the diversity of cash and subsistence crops grown here. Slaves in this area were only traded or given as gifts locally, major slave-trading centers being distant. Therefore, slaves were greatly valued, with families mostly remaining intact. According to George Sabo, slavery during the pre-Civil War era was relatively unimportant for the Arkansas Ozarks in general, probably because cotton production on most Ozark farmsteads was never important beyond domestic levels of consumption.

In summary, outside political appointments and government decisions regarding territorial boundaries, district land office centers, and circuit court locations provided a catalyst for Fayetteville's growth as a territorial center and later as an important city in state government and education. Certain men and their families acquired status and wealth because of political appointments and social-political ties. Large land holdings, numerous slaves used in non-agricultural pursuits, and status resulting from national political appointments and the use of these positions to gain wealth, may be atypical of the general development of the Ozarks during this period.

This text is from a paper presented at the 16th annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, January 5-8, 1983, Denver, Co by the author.



Arkansas College

Waxhaws - Archibald Yell's home in Fayetteville, Ref. page 20

Dr. Thomas J. Pollard
First President of Washington County Medical Society, also a teacher of doctors

Judge David Walker

Judge David Walker town house, presently owned by Dr. & Mrs. Franklin Williams

THE LETTERS OF MATTHEW LEEPER

(Editor's Note: The preceding story by Dr. Hilliard gives prominent mention of Matthew and James Leeper. The letters that follow were written by Matthew Leeper to his brother-in-law, Judge David Walker and published in FLASHBACK by W.J. Lemke in February of 1963, from originals furnished by Mr. J. Wythe Walker of New York City.)

Fort Smith, 28th August, 1853

My Dear Sir

I have learned by a son of Mr. Rapley that you were probably at home. This may be of service to me, as you (confidentially speaking) are the only man at Fayetteville that I can rely on in apprehending my Negro. They all wish me well to be sure, but good wishes with nothing else is of but little use to a man when his Negro is in the bushes. It seems to me that the fates are against me. Even the Negroes that I have raised betray me. The scoundrel George being aware of my necessities has taken advantage of them. I have no means to enable me to use the proper means for his apprehension. But Sir I have every confidence that you will use your best exertions for his recovery. I have secured the services of Mr. Trammell who will bring him to me if he can be had. Nancy and the two children will pay Mrs. W. and I am resolved that he shall leave the State. I shall detain at the Choctaw Agency, I think, till the first of October or get him and if I am unsuccessful I will go on and take the chances. I have not time even to thank you for the many acts of kindness extended to us. Of my intended movements I say nothing publicly with a hope that George will think I have left the country.

Your friend truly, M. Leeper

Hon. D. Walker
Fayetteville, Arks. (The entire letter is written in Leeper's hand.)

San Antonio, Feb. 8th, 1857

Dear Sir

I wrote several letters to you last Fall in which I promised to transmit two hundred dollars by Christmas, a cheque for one hundred dollars I did send — to all of which no reply has been received.

I find that it is out of the question to think of living in so dry, so expensive, and so uncertain a Country as this. It has not rained here enough to wet the ground an inch deep for nearly twelve months and at present no prospect of rain whatever. Having determined to return to Fayetteville I found myself so much embarrassed that it was impossible for me to comply with my promise without the sale of my Place which I have not yet been able to accomplish

even at a sacrifice of one half of its value, but whether I sell or not, my family and negroes will return in the Spring.

There is no one that feels more keenly the mortification of subjecting a friend to inconvenience than myself, but during the ensuing Summer I am determined to satisfy all who have claims upon me if it should take all that I have. This morning I leave for Washington, D.C. and you might ask if money can be obtained for that purpose, why it should not be applied in the payment of debts. My answer would be that it is gratuitous offering of a friend here, who sincerely desires my success and welfare. I do not start with any money of my own, I feel that it is a duty which I owe to myself and to my family to use all laudable exertions which is possible to afford me relief from my pecuniary embarrassments; and if I fail I will have the consolation of having done all that I could do, and that I still have property enough with which to pay out.

Very sincerely as ever
Your friend, M. Leeper

Hon. David Walker
Fayetteville, Arkansas
(Evidently written by a clerk, but signed "M. Leeper" in Leeper's own handwriting. At this time he was suffering from a crippled hand. - WJL)

Comanche Agency, Texas, February 7th, 1859

Dear Sir

Since the receipt of your kind letter of November 3rd 1858 I transmitted a cheque for one hundred and twenty five dollars, the receipt of which has been acknowledged, and on the 27th of January 1859 I transmitted a check for seventy-five dollars not yet heard from, making in all seven hundred dollars which has been forwarded last Fall and this winter. In the memorandum furnished in your letter of the above date, you mention the payment of a hundred dollars in 1856 yourself. I recollect the item very distinctly, and in the Fall of that year I purchased from Colonel Myers, United States Quarter master at San Antonio, a cheque for one hundred dollars, made payable directly to you, which I immediately transmitted, which cheque must have either been lost or stolen from the mail. I will write to Colonel Myers immediately for the number, date, and place of payment of the cheque, and thus endeavor to trace it up. If the cheque has been lost, I can procure a duplicate, and if stolen from the mail perhaps some trace can yet be obtained of the felon. If however it should be finally lost, the loss shall be mine and the money shall be paid.

I am just struggling through my pecuniary embarrassments and if the seven hundred dollars recently paid will answer Mrs. Washington's present necessities, it will oblige me very much to be permitted to pay her at the rate of twenty pr cent pr annum instead of ten pr cent on the remainder until the first of July, when I will have (if I meet with no misfortune) one Quarter's salary due me which shall be appropriated in the entire liquidation of the claim, but if she requires more, please inform me by the return mail and the amount shall be procured regardless of the cost to me.

You and your family have placed me under very many and lasting obligations for your kindness and care of Laura. I would have gone for her im-

mediately, but my private affairs and business engagements absolutely forbid it. Please write on the reception of this and accept the most sincere and best wishes of

Your friend, M. Leeper

Wichita Agency, L.D., Nov. 29, 1860

Hon. David Walker, Fayetteville, Arks.

Dear Sir

I wrote you last week in reference to my indebtedness at Fayetteville, all of which shall be settled during the first week in January ensuing.

I now write merely for the sake of a little gossip in reference to the political appearance of the country, and for the pleasure of discoursing with a friend for whose opinions I entertain sentiments of high respect. In my last letter I mentioned that I was decidedly in favor of the Union, and there is probably but few men who live in it that would go further than myself to sustain it if it could be done with fairness and justice to the South; but from the tone of the Northern papers and the overwhelming success of Mr. Lincoln, I fear that the South will be driven to the wall and be forced to withdraw, if such should be the case, the liberties and enjoyments of the American people will have set in blood forever.

No man can reasonably anticipate the desolation which would ensue; civil war would be the inevitable consequence; neighbor would be arrayed in arms against his neighbor; brother against brother and father against his son, until in after years we would look back with despairing mockery and utter ruin which our folly have brought upon us. In meeting such a fearful crisis the odds in every particular is against the South; it will be composed of the most discordant material. There will be two great parties, the Union and the Anti-Union parties. Hundreds and thousands of black Republicans will be found in our midst and scattered in every direction throughout the Southern States, ready and willing to stimulate the negroes, to the commission of the most fearful outrages. I am not an alarmist and believe that I am speaking nothing but the Truth.

But how are these things to be avoided? There is a maxim that you might as well rob a man of life as of the means by which he lives; if these things have to come, the sooner they come the better, as I would rather aid in breasting the storm myself than to have my children do so after me. I am speaking to some extent at random, for my position is so isolated and remote that it is impossible for me to be well posted in reference to the political history of the country.

There would not be time for me to receive a letter from you at this place previous to my departure, but a letter addressed to me at Fort Smith would be very acceptable if you deem it worth the trouble.

Very sincerely
Your friend, M. Leeper

Hon. David Walker Fayetteville, Arks.

(The signature is Leeper's but the letter itself is written in someone else's excellent hand. — WJL)

Sherman, Texas, June 4th, 1875

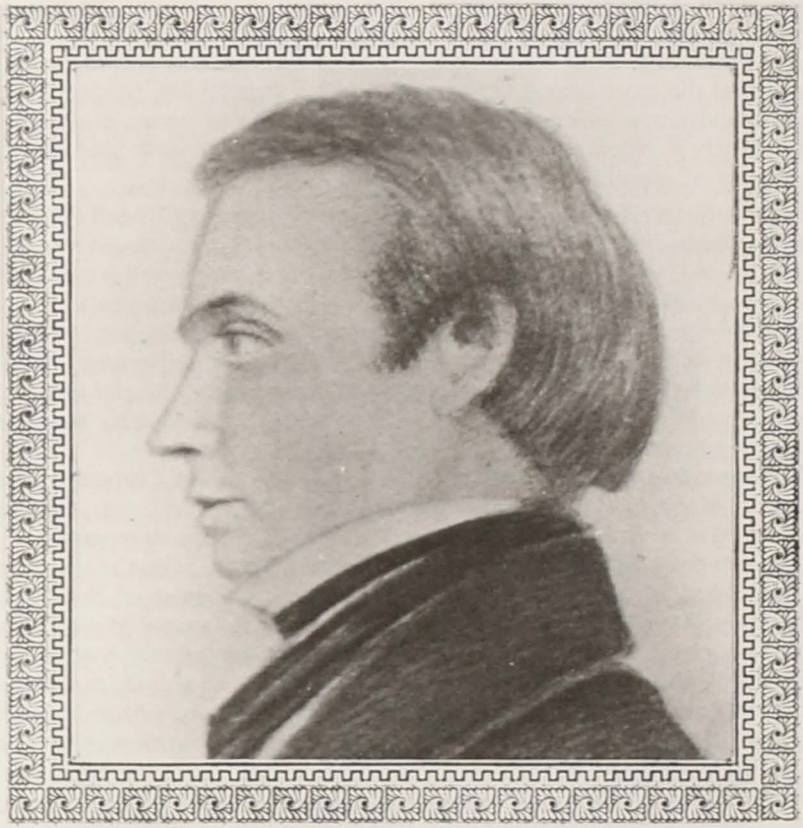
Hon. D. Walker
Dear Sir

Your kind letter of the 1st Inst. was duly received, for which accept my thanks, and pardon me for employing Lucy in the mechanical part of my reply. I have written but few letters with my own hand since I was crippled.

It is true that we have been negligent in our correspondence and the only reason it has been on, on my part, is the inconvenience of writing with my own hand.

In taking a retrospective view of the past, I am forcibly struck with the justice of the remarks of your friend, which is most true. I have never known any man whose course has been more steadily onward and whose habits more regular, in every particular, than yours. Mine has been the reverse, and it really a matter of astonishment to me that I have anything left upon which to sustain myself and my family. I have but little as it is but hope that it will be sufficient for our sustenance during the brief period of our remaining existence.

Sketch of Judge David Walker when a young man.



Our children are doing tolerable well, particulars I will give you when we meet. Matt has grown to be fully up to, or over, the medium size. He has a respectable Commission and a good report in regard to his official character, has been complimented for his gallantry in public orders by the Secretary of War.

My habits have undergone an entire change. You are aware that in former years I sometimes engaged in the wildest scenes of revelry and dissipation, and in taking a view of the past I can think of but one thing upon which I can congratulate myself, and that is the almost universal peace and quietness with which I have lived with my family. I have not for years indulged in intoxicating drinks, or any species of improprieties, and you can scarcely imagine the unutterable contempt and disgust I feel for drunkenness or debauchery of any kind. I verily believe that ardent spirits is the greatest curse that was ever inflicted upon the human race. It has caused a greater flow of orphans tears and severer pangs to the throbbing hearts of disconsolate widows than famine, pestilence or the sword ever did.

I am your senior, I believe, by one or two years. I am in the seventy second year of my life. The woes and ills, sorrows and disappointments incident to human nature, with us, is rapidly approaching their terminus.

The Bible is either true or false. If it is true, no human wisdom could fathom and benefits which is in the power of all men to obtain. If it is not true, no man is a loser by believing it true. My opinion is that it is true. I believe that the ever-loving God has furnished everything necessary for our temporal existence which we are unable to furnish ourselves, and given us a guide which if strictly pursued with an abiding faith will lead us to the inheritance of eternal life in a future state.

If we were to refuse to avail ourselves of the means provided for our temporal existence, we would instantly perish, and most certainly, in my opinion, we will do so if we fail, or neglect, to use the means provided for our spiritual existence. I believe that a great many of the forms, ceremonies and customs of most of the professed Christian organizations or associations are the accumulation of the nonsense of the age. Our Lord when he was upon earth avoided everything like ostentation or show. Everything he did was marked by the strictest humility, kindness, long suffering, and charity, without any display of nonsensical actions.

My impression is that in passing from the Jewish to the Christian dispensation that a majority of those who embraced the Christian religion, carried with them vestiges of the Jewish religion also. This is clearly demonstrated by a large sect in the country of Galilee, who embraced the Christian religion under the preaching of St. Mathew, by still adhering to most of the rites and ceremonies of the Jewish law. The robes worn by Episcopal Ministers, in my opinion, is a relic of Judaism. Every historian knows full well that among all nations whose customs, manners and languages are changed, that they take with them many of the ancient customs. The Romans were heathen people and when their Emperor Constantine embraced the Christian religion these people still continued in their worship many of the customs, trickeries and legerdemain, operations which they had been accustomed to use in appeasing the wrath of their heathen Gods, which now can be seen cropping out in

every Roman Catholic church in Christendom.

The Bible informs us that all that is necessary for our salvation is to fear God and keep his commandments. I do not propose to preach a sermon and therefore will close.

I do hope you will visit us soon, with a view to stay some time with us, as I have much conversation for you. We would surely visit you if we had the means to do so, but we have not.

As ever very sincerely your friend M. Leeper

San Antonio, July 9th, 1855

To the President of the Know Nothing Society Sir:

Some months since I became one of your members, and situated as I am, have not had it in my power, conveniently to attend any of your meetings, or to participate in any of your deliberations. Therefore, it is not to be presumed that I should be well posted with regard to the bent of your policy or determinations. I joined your Society for the purpose of aiding in the consummation of a long cherished and much desired measure which seemed to be your object — ostensibly so, at least, to wit: The passage of a law, by the General Govenment, absolutely prohibiting the introduction in our Country of foreign Paupers and Felons; also an additional check upon respectable foreigners who may hereafter arrive; not to interfere as a matter of course with the rights and privileges of those who are already here, and that your secret movements were for the laudable purpose of pursuing uninterruptedly and quietly your plans to aid any Party that might be in power to have such a law passed. I never for a moment supposed that the real object was to establish a separate and distinct political Party, and at the same time to declare the two great existing political parties dissolved and defunct. I understand that every Democratic Administration has favored the notion of such a law as I have mentioned, but for some cause, perhaps from the rancor and turmoil of mad party strife, it has never been passed. If the Country has been mismanaged under Democratic rule, it is our fault; the principles are good, and we should appoint better men to fill high Offices.

If it were possible for a new Party such as you seem to desire to succeed, composed of the most discordant materials in the World, hastily formed, and more hastily organized, would it be at all probable that such a Party would reflect more honor upon the Country, or bestow more benefits upon the People than a great Party that has been successfully tried for years, and is the admiration of the world.

Sir, my political principles have ever been Democratic and my course has been onward, without the least shadow of turning. The great Republican or Democratic platform has withstood the scrutiny of talents and of time *unscathed*, and it is the standard of liberty around which I shall rally: the brightest gem of which a free and independent American can boast, and the rock upon which the liberties of this Government repose. May God forbid that it shall ever be trodden under foot or its Members dispersed. With these reasons, and many others which might be given, I respectfully ask leave honorably to withdraw. It is my privilege to do so.

Very respectfully Your obt servt, M. Leeper

Lucile White Prior, 262 Prior Lane, Atherton, CA 94025: Wish to exchange information on GODDARD, WHITE, SCOTT, SEXTON, RAINWATER AND RICHMAN families of early Washington County.

Mrs. G. Pafford Alread, 2217 Glencrest Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76119: Seeking information on following families: JEFFERS of Northeastern Arkansas, Missouri and Kentucky; SATTERFIELD of Crawford County, Arkansas, Tennessee; GUINN of Washington County, Arkansas, Kentucky, Virginia. Jeffers family once owned property where town of Carthage, Missouri was later built. Land records destroyed when courthouse burned. Maria E. Satterfield b. circa 1843 in Ohio, dau. of ? and L.M. Satterfield, Crawford County, Arkansas. Married (1) James W. JEFFRE, son of ?, circa 1868. Living in Carthage, Missouri in 1870, in Crawford County, Arkansas 1880. Four children: (1) Mary R. b. 1869, MO, m. ?; (2) Cintha O., b. 1872, MO, m. ?; (3) Elmira M., b. 1874 MO, m. Sam Houston GUINN and Elizabeth WINKLE, Washington County, Arkansas; (4) Robert D., b. 1876, AR, m. ?. Mariah married (2) ? Kipp; (3) Isaac McAlister, 1886, Crawford County, Arkansas.

Mrs. Larry Henderson, Rt. 3, Box 176-J, Denison, TX 75020: Would like information on J.H. PARK of Virginia, born in Ireland. His daughter was Mary Park, b. 1808, Ireland. She married Walter D. PARKS. I need all information on him. Mary and Walter lived in Christian County, Kentucky 1830, Davidson County, Tennessee 1840, and Washington County, Arkansas 1850. Would also like information on the children of Joseph Parks and Jane POSTAN. They were: Mary B. Parks, Martha Jane Parks, and Lizzie C. Parks. They were somewhere in Texas in 1911.

Margie Eimen Nuzum, 1401 Shuttee, El Reno, OK 73036: Wish to correspond and exchange information with anyone interested in any of the following: (1) Warren Kalvert COX, b. 8 July 1854, IL and Elizabeth Pearcy Ann OSTEEN, b. 27 June 1851, IL. They were married Franklin County, Illinois ca 1871. Children: Edward Harley, William Wylie, Franklin, Fred, Elmer, Lawrence, Leona Samantha (NANCE), Mary (CLOUSE), Myrtle (PERRIGO), Anna (LAKE MILLS). Family living in Farmington, Washington County, Arkansas in 1899. (2) Joseph N. EPPERLY, b. ca. 1845 in MO, and Frances Louisa Albina Jane Epperly (first cousins), b. 20 Dec. 1848, Randolph County, MO, were married ca 1875 Chariton County, MO. Children: Minnie, Fannie (JOHNSON), Rhoda, Maggie (HAZELTON), Lota, William, Emmett, John. Family living at Rhea, Washington County, AR in 1899.

(3) Edward Harley COX, b. 1 April 1873, Plumfield (Franklin), IL, and Minnie Epperly, b. 17 February 1876, Kirksville (Adair), MO. Were married 18 September 1899 at Farmington, AR. In 1901 they were living in Seneca (Newton) MO where he was employed with the Santa Fe R.R. By 1903 both the Cox and Epperly families were all in Caddo County, Oklahoma.

Zep P. Jackson, Jr., P.O. Box 266, Muskogee, OK 74401: I am looking for any information on Zebulon M. PETTIGREW who married Margaret ODLE 8 February 1849 in Fayetteville. I would like any information on the following: Elizabeth Pettigrew who married William ALLEN; on John Mathews Pettigrew who married Helen ALDRIDGE; on James Russell Pettigrew who married Eliza Ruth DICKSON 18 November 1876 and on James Carter Pettigrew of Fayetteville. I will be glad to exchange information.

Lola M. Lewis, c/o, Garry D. Lewis, 624 Sandstone Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76112: I just found a name in Tenneesee that has been overlooked in all the writings on Levi Combs. When he left North Carolina in 1822 he must have traveled to Roane County, Tennessee with his family. Levi Combs was a member of the Concord Baptist Church, Meigs County, Tennessee, 7th Civil District. In October 1829 he was excluded for having joined the Methodist Church. Then we pick him up in the Fulton County, Illinois Federal census. In 1840 he showed up in the Washington County, Arkansas Federal census, in Prairie Township. From there it is plain he stayed with several sons and daughter Louisa. I am looking for information on Levi Combs and James M. Carter; also their parents. Where are Carters buried? Allen Carter was whose relative? He died around 1847/48; paid taxes that year. Was John Combs in Fulton County, Illinois with Levi Combs (his father)? Was Hiram Combs his brother or uncle? Nathan Combs buried in Combs Chapel Cemetery (see FLASHBACK February 1971 and July 1954).

Amelia Baum Pivernetz, 4403 Iroquois Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90713: I am doing genealogical research on my family. Several of my ancestors were residents of Washington County, Arkansas. (1) Great-great-grandfather William Glenn AGEE, b. 15 or 16 March 1818, Todd County, Kentucky, d. 20 June 1896 near Buffalo, MO. Parents were John Mask Agee and Martha Christian. Wife was Mary Elizabeth Christian b. 1825, Todd County, Kentucky; parents were Harris Christian and ?. Approximately 1870 William Glenn Agee moved his mercantile stock to Washington County, Arkansas. He remained there two years, then spent four years in Fayetteville, after which he located in Hood, Arkansas where he stayed. (2) Thomas Joshua Agee, b. 11 August 1862, Sedalia or Dresden, MO, d. 9 May 1922, Porter Oklahoma. Married Ella Martin on 2 January 1889 in Hood, Arkansas. Occupation pharmacist. (3) Grandfather Frank Glenn Agee, b. 25 July 1889, Elkins, AR, d. 4 June 1960, Long Beach, CA. Married first Eloise Fisher on 22 February 1910, place unknown; married second Clare Hays on 11 October 1913, Porter, OK.

UR READERS WRITE

Mrs. John H. (Madaline Haddock) Krueger, 1145 Shetler Avenue, Napa, CA 94559: This is a call for help! I'm trying to prove the correct date of death of my uncle, PVT. Levi A. Douthit, who was killed in France during the fighting of World War I. His name is listed on the wall of the courthouse in Fayetteville, along with other Washington County men who lost their lives in World War I. His body was returned to the United States sometime in the early part of 1921 (so I have been told). His body was laid to rest in the family plot at White Rock Cemetery, near Salem Springs, Arkansas.

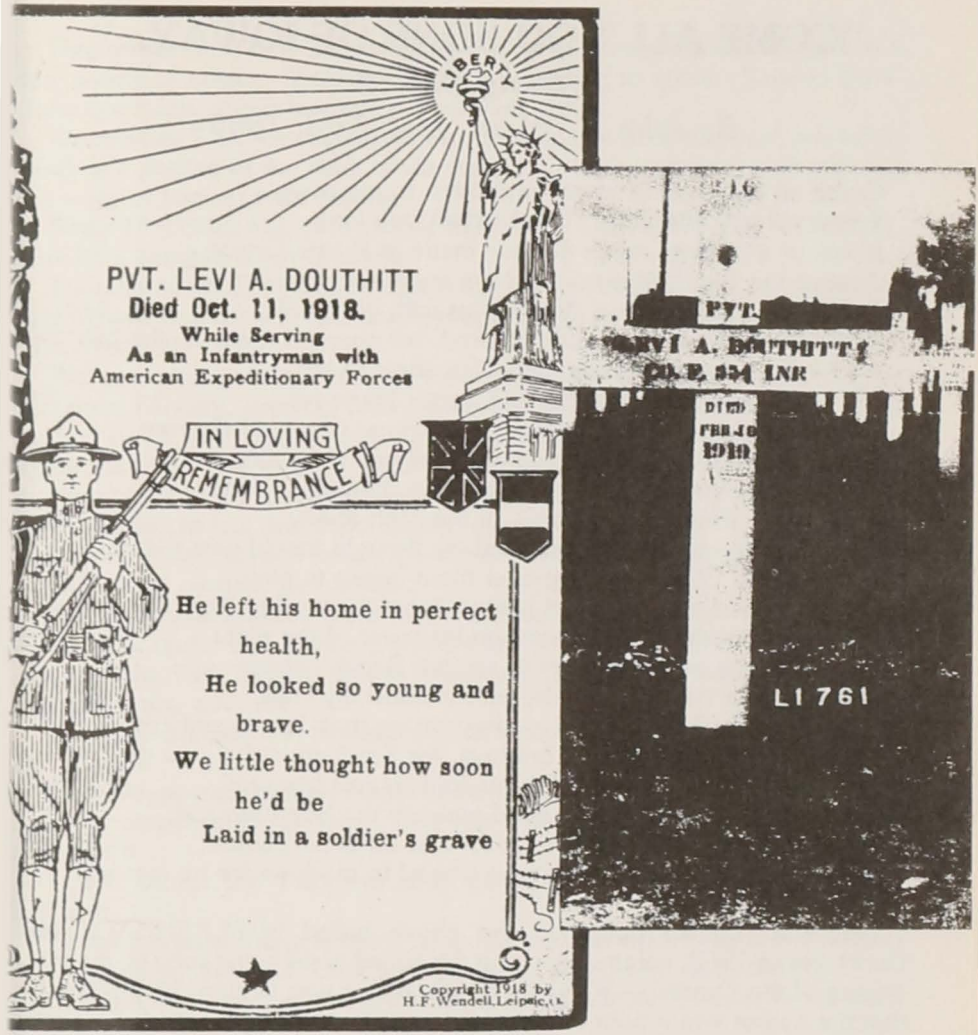
I have in my possession, two post card type pictures, each stating different dates of death. The first card has a picture of flag, solider, statue of Liberty, etc. (see reproduction) and shows the date of Oct. 11, 1918. The other is a gray folder type card with the U.S. seal on front. Inside is a photo of white crosses in cemetery. On cross #216 is shown a death date of February 19, 1919. On left side of folder there is a Red Cross insignia, below which is space for name, rank, service, grave, cemetery, but nothing is written there. Would this photo be a picture of the cemetery in France where his body was buried before being shipped back to the U.S., such as Flanders Field? Did the American Red Cross play any part in the burial of our soldiers in that war? Did the Red Cross play any part in the return of our soldiers' bodies?

I have written two letters to the General Services Administration, Military Pesonnel Records, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132. They inform me that those records would have been lost in a fire on July 12, 1973.

What newspaper was being published in Fayetteville during W.W. I? I'm sure his name would have appeared in the newspaper at that time, also when the body was shipped home for burial. How was the family informed of death at that time? The family lived in the country, my mother (Avra Douthit) and her family living on the "Old Douthit" property near spring at Salem Springs in those days.

There were three Douthit sons fighting in that war. Sons of George N. Douthit and Mary Elizabeth Fields Douthit, twins Levi A. and Lee A. Douthit, also brother Bill Douthit. They all saw action overseas. Lee and Bill returned home after the war, became barbers, and years later moved to Siloam Springs where they raised their families. Lee passed away 24 September 1956 at Veterans Hospital in Fayetteville. Bill died 9 May 1982. Both are buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Siloam Springs, AR.

George N. Douthit and Mary E. Fields Douthit raised a large family on the old home place, and they were educated at the Salem Springs school. Dora m. Eff Little; James Thomas m. Myrtle Clem; John Nathaniel m. Della Stout; May Elizabeth m. James Wall; George O. m. Otha Ruth Allen; Annie



Margaret m. Osburn (Oz) Stout, Lee A. m. Zona Wilson; Levi A. never married; Zeddock(Dock) m. Jewell Ball; Fannie m. Kirb White; William (Bill) m. Ruth Reeder; Hugh m. Virginia Magness (after her death he m. Virginia Etta Broughton of Siloam Springs); Avra E. m. Claude E. (Easy) Haddock.

The Douthit home was a popular place for the young people of the area to gather on Sunday afternoons for lots of singing and playing of musical instruments.

Hope someone out there can help me prove the correct death date.

"COME ALL YOU SONS OF IOWAY..."

A Song Ballad

By John M. Wyatt May 23rd, 1865

Come all you sons of Ioway and listen to my song.
If you will pay attention, I'll not detain you long.
It was of a gallant charge that we made at Prairie Grove
Against the Southern forces, where every member strove.
Our officers being brave, they led us with good will,
And although we were outnumbered, we charged them up the hill.
And volley after volley we made our shots to tell
Till our brave Lieut. Colonel and Sergt. Major fell.
Through fields of blood we waded, then cannon loud did roar,
And many a brave commander lay bleeding in his gore.
And heaps of mangled soldiers lay over the field that day
That were killed our wounded, of the 19th Ioway.
They had us so outnumbered that we thought they'd gain the day;
But then old Blunt's artillery over them began to play.
Which caused such dreadful horror, it put them all to flight
And they withdrew their forces under cover of the night.
Next morning we were sorry to see the Rebels' wives
Hunting their dead husbands, with melancholy cries.
And sisters finding brothers — they wrung their hands and cried
Saying "Dear dead bloody brothers, for Southern rights you died."
Now the battle is all over and our soldiers rest from toil.
So carefully we placed our dead beneath the Southern soil.
We placed them all in order, as formed on dress parade,
And placed a board at each man's head to mark where he was laid.

Walter J. Lemke published the above ballad in FLASHBACK for December of 1962, commenting that this ballad is still being sung by the folk singers of the Ozarks — 97 years (then) after it was written. He mentions that the author was a poor speller, for example, the original reads "A song ballot roten by John M. Wyatt." But, Mr. Lemke said, his facts were correct.

Our files include excerpts from the diary of Lt. Charles W. Huff, 19th Iowa Volunteer Infantry, which excerpts were published in the Chicago Daily News in the summer of 1961.

November 27, 1862 Camp Curtis, Mo. — Thanksgiving Day. Sad and gloomy, and we have no feast to enjoy. Yet I at least have a feast of memories, of thoughts of home and friends far away. (The peaceful, if gloomy, camp life soon ended. The sweating, weary troops marched back to Arkansas, more than 100 miles in three days. A big battle was shaping up — the Battle of Prairie Grove, Ark. Confederate troops under Gen. Thomas C. Hindman and the dashing cavalryman, John Marmaduke, set out to cut off and destroy the Union forces. These were led by Generals James G. Blunt and the 25-year-old Francis J. Herron. Each side engaged about 10,000 men.)

December 6 Lt. Col. Sam McFarland, our commanding officer, gave us a few words of advice. "Soldiers, we are expecting to attack. Remain calm. Take good aim, shoot low and cut off their retreat."

December 7 On battleground. From the chaos of excitement and while holding a portion of the field, while groups are sitting around, each relating his story of horror, I am writing.

Since 12 o'clock today, the battle has raged. The fight is over for tonight. The final struggle is yet to come.

Thunder of Rebel cannon fell upon our ears for the first time five miles distant. There was nothing to show fear or faltering as we quickened our steps and closed our ranks.

We came but a short distance, however, when we were met by the 1st Arkansas Cavalry, spurring their horses to the utmost speed. Pell mell they rushed on. It was not encouraging to raw troops. "Coward" was spoken by more than one boy. (Legend has it that Herron shot one of these men.) A portion of General Herron's bodyguard seemed equally panic-stricken. Every man seemed to feel the responsibility rested with us.

The fight was opened before I became aware of it. Firing was kept up by each side for perhaps two hours.

A charge was ordered on a masked Rebel battery on the hill. The 20th Wisconsin, under Col. Bertram, was the first to advance, our regiment following, and the 94th (Illinois) was to follow us. The 94th, for some reason, did not make any advance.

The 20th cut their way through a force vastly superior to their own, but had to fall back.

The 19th passed through the same fiery ordeal, retook the battery and held it until compelled to fall back. Had the 94th followed us, we might have retained it.

In this charge the 19th and 20th lost in killed and wounded half their number.

About this time, General Blunt (who had dashed eight miles to the rescue) opened up on the right. Until dark the battle raged with all its terror.

I cannot now imagine how this struggle will terminate. Tomorrow we must renew it.

Col. McFarland of our regiment was killed, also Lts. Smith, Johnson, and Sgt. Maj. Buckingham.

December 8 Morning after the battle, we number scarcely 150 men — the 20th Wisconsin about as many more.

Yet while we bore the brunt of the fight, the command came that we must be foremost in this morning's attack. Why is this? Is Gen. Orme, our acting brigadier and Colonel of the 94th determined on our annihilation? Shame!

I write this on the spot where my (death) may be, and with dead around me. But I have no regrets. Our boys proved themselves yesterday.

An armistice of a few hours has been granted to remove the wounded from the field.

But the Rebels instead used the time to continue a retreat they actually had begun during the night. The battered, cheering Union troops were left masters

of the field. They had lost 1250 men. The Rebel losses were even higher.

This was the first field of blood over which I had passed, and I saw death in its most ghastly form.

Our men were scattered for perhaps half a mile.

Near the Rebel battery, they were almost piled one upon another — hundreds weltering in their own blood.

I noticed three Rebel slaughter pens (trenches) containing 100 of their dead.

Our own dead, with few exceptions, had been rifled of everything, while their own had been stripped of their shoes.

Each Rebel had on nice woolen socks — a luxury much needed by our troops.

Our loss in the 19th is 40 killed and 147 wounded.

The 20th Iowa lost eight killed and 47 wounded, the 20th Wisconsin 57 killed and 183 wounded.

The 94th lost one man killed and one wounded. I do not know where they were stationed. They perhaps know — I do not.

December 9 Our men are still disposing of the dead Rebels. I noticed in one slaughter pen 38 Rebels, one of whom was still alive. He would follow us with his eyes, but we could get no reply from him.

It was a great battle.

This ad appeared in "The Republic" St. Louis newspaper 1897

For HONEST Treatment.
Call or Write.
A cure is what you are after. All curable cases guaranteed. ABILITY and EXPERIENCE—gained through long years of special study and practice, insure successful understanding in my few specialties, and, coupled with judicious treatment and hygienic health laws, will obtain cures.
TEST of ABILITY and EXPERIENCE, look at files of city papers as far back as 5 years. None of the other so-called specialists can be found. You will find my card of limited practice, and as far back as 20 years. A regular graduate of two medical colleges. You see DR. WHITTIER in person, NO SUBSTITUTES. Consultation at office, or by mail, free and invited. Medicine sent by mail or express everywhere, securely packed, free from observation. Hours: 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. daily; Sunday 10 to 12.
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BLOOD and SKIN Diseases, all forms, affecting Body, Nose, Throat, Skin and Bones; also Blotches, Mucous Patches in Mouth, Eruptions, Rheumatism, Falling Hair, Eczema, Old Sores, Ulcers, Painful Swellings, whatever cause, positively driven from system. BLANK 22, FREE.
UNNATURAL DISCHARGES as Gonorrhoea, Gleet, Urethritis, Whites promptly cured.
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PILES AND RECTAL diseases cured by painless means. No real detention from business.
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BIOGRAPHY OF THE VAN HOOSE FAMILY

By
George W.
Van Hoose

Editor's Note: The Van Hoose history which follows was written about 1901 by George Washington Van Hoose, picture in the drawing reproduced herewith. On the back of the drawing is written in faded ink and beautiful penmanship "For Rachel Dickerson or Annette. Presented by your uncle, J.H.) Unfortunately, there is no date.

The Van Hoose family in America came from Amsterdam, Holland, sometime early in the 13th century. The earliest knowledge that can now be had of them, that is reliable, is that the forefathers were soldiers from Amsterdam in the wars for political and religous freedom at home under their old prince, and that they crossed the English Channel with the fleet of five hundred under William, Prince of Orange, in the year 1688, and helped to free England from under the rule of King James the Second, and then went to Ireland, helped suppress a rebellion there, and afterwards were under Prince Eugene with the eleven battalions of Dutch troops, and participated in the great battle of Blenheim on the Danube river, where the Duke of Marlborough killed and captured nearly all of the French army of 60,000 men, when he had about 56,000. This battle was fought the 13th day of August, 1704, and broke the power of France and gave peace to Germany. Then a great many Germans began crossing the waters to the New World, where they expected to be forever free from political and religious oppression. Thank God they were not disappointed, for they found a land where

they could worship God under their own vine and fig tree, and where no one would dare molest, or make them afraid.

Among those hardy, honest, liberty-loving and God-fearing Dutchmen came the Van Hooses and scattered about New Amsterdam (New York). Afterwards, some of the family moved into Virginia and North Carolina. The family we shall now follow settled on the Pedee River in Montgomery County, North Carolina. Van Hoose is sometimes called in German Van House, and others say it is Van Hose, in other words, meaning that Van is able to wear hose or breeches. However, the name has been Van Hoose for near two centuries and we will not attempt to change it.

One John Van Hoose was born and reared in Montgomery County, North Carolina. His father and grandfather were both named John, and as far back in the past as he could find out, there has always been a John, a Jacob, and a James.

The John with whom we shall now begin our family history was born as aforesaid in Montgomery County, N.C., April 5, 1762, and died January 5, 1860, at the age of 98 years. He died at his son Valentine's home on Big Sandy River, Johnson County, Kentucky. He had been one of the strongest men that could be found in the old "North State", and one of the most devout Christians. He lived and died a "hardshell" Baptist. Grandfather John was 16 years old when the Revolutionary War came to his part of North Carolina, and was harassed and threatened a great deal by the Tories. He was at home with his mother and little brother and sister (their father being dead and an older brother, Valentine Van Hoose, being in the Patriot army). Valentine came home to see how they were getting along, and while there was making a gate — hewing the post with a broadaxe. A party of Tories rode up, armed only with swords, and demanded his surrender. he drew his axe and defied them; they were afraid to attack him. They begged him, saying, "Lay down your axe, Valentine, and go downtown with us and take the oath to the King and you can stay at home." He said, "All right." So one fellow took him up behind him on his horse. They started off, but the horse with the extra 200 pounds on his back lagged behind. Valentine said, "Well, I have gone far enough", jumped off and took to the brush, escaping. They came back and demanded of John where his brother was or they would kill him. There was a hole in the seat of his breeches and his shirt tail was out. He said, "He is in the seat of my breeches, don't you see his heels sticking out?" Then they cursed and threatened him terrible, but could not scare him into telling where Val was hiding.

John grew to manhood without learning, as there was little call in wartime for schools. He was a great bear hunter and could relate some wonderful scrapes with bruin and with panthers, also Indians. We will give one of his yarns. He was out after a big bear with a little dog for tracking. He shot the bear and only wounded it slightly. It went for him and he had not time to reload his gun. He threw the gun down and stepped aside, and as the bear rushed past him, John caught the bear by the nape of the neck and the seat of the breeches, jerking it down to a branch where the water was a foot deep, stuck its nose under and raised its hind parts and held it there until it was drowned. It weighed 400 pounds net. He was a wonderful stout man. He was six foot and two inches

and weighed 240 pounds when young. The writer of this saw him plowing a big contrary horse when he was 85 years old. He walked around and slapped the horse with open palm on the side of his head, and the horse fell in his tracks like he had been struck by lightning. I thought he had killed him, but he came to after a while and was very quiet.

He was a very firm man. When he had his mind made up once he could never be moved. He was intensely honest, patriotic and religious. He was a Hardshell Baptist, yet whenever the Methodists had a Communion service and invited all Christians to partake, he would go every time, and when his brothers would remonstrate, he said, "If it's the Lord's table, I belong there, thank God, and I'm going, too."

When he was about 28 years old, or in 1788 (sic), he was married to Mary Bryan, a daughter of one of the Bryan families that built Bryan's Station in West Virginia. Mary had brothers, John, William and Owen. We will speak of them later on. John and Mary began keeping house in Montgomery County, North Carolina, and had several children born to them there; then they moved to Washington County, Virginia for a few years, then back to the "Old North State", and then to Big Sandy, Kentucky, where they settled for good, and where most of the old ones lived and died.

The oldest son of John and Mary was James, born in N.C. in 1790. He lived to a good old age, married Elizabeth Preston, raised twelve boys and one girl, all of whom raised large families in Kentucky.

The second son of old grandfather John was named John. He was born in Montgomery County, N.C. December 12, 1792, and when 21 years of age was married to Lydia Lewis, born in Orange County, N.C. September 22, 1799. She was a daughter of Zachariah and Rachel Lewis, both of North Carolina. We will notice them farther on.

The third son was Valentine or "Fetta" as he was called. He was born in 1796, married a Borders, raised a large family in Kentucky. His old father died at his house, just three miles below Paintsville, Johnson County, Kentucky.

The first girl was Elizabeth, born 1794, who married Dick Price, lived on Big Sandy, raised a large family, and lived to be 100 years old (or older).

The fourth son was Levi, born in 1798. He married Betsy Clark and raised a large family of boys and girls. After Levi's death, his wife married William Herold and lived in Ironton, Ohio.

The fifth son was Jesse, born 1800, married and raised a large family on Big Sandy, lived to be very old, and died there.

The sixth son was Thomas, born 1804. He raised a large family from two wives, lived and died on Big Sandy.

The seventh son and youngest of the family, Ruben, was born 1806 or 1808, raised his family on Big Sandy and died there.

Another daughter, Sallie, was born in 1806, married Mose Price, lived near Peach Orchard on Big Sandy, raised a large family of Prices and lived to be old.

Will here continue the history of John and Lydia Van Hoose. They were married in 1813 and moved into Kentucky with their parents on both sides.

1. The first child born to them was Rachel, born November 1816 in Fayette County, Kentucky, and she married James P. Dickerson, of Virginia, in 1838.

2. The second child, John J., was born 1818.
3. Next, a daughter, Mary, born 1820.
4. Next, a son, born 1823. His name was Zachariah, named for his mother's father, old Zach. Lewis.
5. Next was Peter P., born October 14, 1825.
6. Next was George, born 1827 and died when two years old.
7. Next was James H., who was born January 8, 1830.
8. Next was George Washington, born September 15, 1832.
9. Next was Jacob M., born July 14, 1835.
10. Next was Elizabeth J., born November 1837.
11. Next was Henry B., born August 1840.
12. Next was Lydia N., born 1843, died 1846.

My father, John Van Hoose, started for Arkansas Saturday morning, May 3, 1839, with two flatboats loaded with staves and tanbark, and a little covered moving boat. There were two other families with us, the Dickersons and Steels.

When we got to Cincinnati we had to stay there two weeks or more to sell out the loading and boats. Dickersons and Steels took steamboats and left us and went to Jackson County, Missouri. We got aboard a little stern wheel boat and came down the river, through the canal at Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Cairo.

The writer of this history, or biography of the Van Hoose family and other families of different names who are connected to them by blood or otherwise, is growing old, having nearly reached man's allotted time of three score and ten, and feeling and knowing that it will be but a short time before he shall be called away from this life to a better one, and God is so good and merciful to us in letting us live this long, and still retain all our intellectual faculties in good order, and we have made so little use of the talents that have been given us by our father in heaven, and hoping that we may be able to write something that will be a pleasure and a benefit to the present and rising generations of the families that we may mention.

In view of the fact that it is so common for our people to keep no account of their forefathers and cannot go back beyond their grandparents, and in order that the young people of the families of the Van Hooses and those connected to them may have something to keep and hand down to their children that will help them to know from whom and from whence they came, we are going to give as good an account of the forefathers as possible. But of course it cannot be expected to get everything just exactly correct (from what country they came and the dates as near as possible), and those who read will be charitable enough to pass our imperfections by and accept what is good and useful, and excuse an old man that has never had an opportunity for an education; one who grew up in the rough backwoods mountains of Arkansas, too poor to go to school.

Now a little more about the Bryan, Lewis and Ramey families, and we will close. My grandfather, John Van Hoose, who was born in Montgomery County, N.C., April 5, 1762, was married to Mary Bryan, daughter of William Bryan, who also had sons William, John and Owen, and also another

daughter who married a man by the name of Rector and moved West somewhere. As stated, the Bryans were of the family who built Bryan's Station in West Virginia. It has been said that the name used to be called O'Bryan, that they dropped the O' after coming to America from Scotland.

Grandmother Mary Bryan's brother Owen had a daughter who married a Mr. Ramey and they named one of their sons Owen, after his grandfather Owen Bryan. Owen Ramey has a large family of descendants in Washington County, Arkansas, at present, who are good citizens, and there are many other families descended from the same branch.

My father, John Van Hoose, Jr., was born in Montgomery County, North Carolina, 1792, and went to Virginia in 1800, was married in 1813 to Miss Lydia Lewis, who was born in Orange County, North Carolina, September 22, 1799. Her father was an Irishman, Zachariah Lewis, a kinsman of Lieut. Geo. Lewis, who married Martha Washington, and his and Martha's tombs are yet at Mt. Vernon, Virginia.

Grandfather Zach Lewis was married in Orange County, N.C. to Rachel Bracken, one of the family that Bracken County, Kentucky is named after. Grandmother Rachel had by Zach Lewis: First, George W. Lewis, named for his kinsman, Lieut, George Lewis, born in Orange County, N.C., 1797; Lydia (my mother) born 1799; then Bracken, born in 1801. Then Grandmother Rachel was left a widow with three children, all small. After a few years she married Peter Mankins, who was born in Maryland.

He (Peter) had a brother, Watter Mankins, who was ten years his senior, who married Millie Stalcup in North Carolina, 1799. Old Aunt Millie was living with Watter's and Peter's father and mother when Watter was born, she being then a grown woman. She declared she never saw so pretty a baby boy, and she intended to wait for him. She continued to live with the parents until he was a grown man and married him sure enough. She was so far advanced in life that they never raised but one child, Nancy Mankins, who was born the last month, the last day, last hour, last minute of the 18th century, being born just before 12 o'clock, December 31st, 1800, and she was married to George Lewis when he was fifteen years old and she was twelve.

My father and mother were married at the same time, father John Van Hoose being 21 years old, and mother Lydia Lewis, 13.

Grandmother Rachel Bracken had a younger brother, John Bracken, who made a doctor and was practicing medicine in North Carolina in 1864, during the Civil War. They also had a sister Lydia, who ran away and married a man by the name of Bates.

Richer is the man who lives in his own times,
but sees in them the
admixture of all the times that have been.

Kenneth L. Patton

ALEXANDER JOYCE

By Jean Jorgensen

Alexander Joyce, of Scotch-Irish descent, was born January 31, 1812 in Rockingham County, North Carolina. He was the son of John Joyce and Lucy Edwards, and the grandson of James Joyce who died in Rockingham County by November, 1798.

When Alexander was about 13 years of age, the family removed to Grainger County, Tennessee where they remained until about 1845. Part of the family remained in Grainger County; Alexander migrated to Washington County, Arkansas; his parents went to Trigg County, Kentucky.

The first wife of Alexander Joyce was Delila Kirk (b. ca 1812, d. 1840-41), daughter of Ezekiel Kirk and Colis (Coly) Simpson. They married September 9, 1831 and their children were: William, who married Emeline Stone April 24, 1855; Martha (b. July 15, 1835, d. April 9, 1909) who married Jonathan C. Cloer August 15, 1854; James Thomas (b. January 5, 1837, d. July 21, 1917) who married Eliza Cloer August 9, 1855; and Coly Elizabeth (b. ca 1839, d. 1867-70) who married John B. Cloer June 5, 1856.

Alexander's second wife was Serena Sunderland (b. August 6, 1816, d. February 8, 1897), daughter of James Sunderland and Rebecca Daniel. Their children were: Sarah (d. in Oklahoma) who married John Oxford June 1, 1862; Mary Delila (b. ca 1845) who probably married first to Henry G. Cloer and second to A.P. Barnes; Edna Malissa (b. ca 1847) who married first to W.G. Finley and second to Fletcher Clayton; John Alexander (b. April 8, 1849, d. June 19, 1921) who married Lavania Combs September 30, 1869; and Margaret Theodocia (b. December 19, 1851, d. August 28, 1885) who married John D. Savage.

By 1850 there were two Joyce families in Washington County — the family of Alexander and the family of Clinton Joyce. The two families were distantly related as Alexander and Clinton had the same great-grandfather (Alexander Joyce of Virginia and North Carolina). Clinton Joyce lived in Hickman County, Tennessee before moving to Washington County and was later a resident of Bell County, Texas.

Two sons of Alexander served during the Civil War, Bill with the Union army and Tom with the Confederacy, and for the rest of their lives they argued about the war. The war also affected Alexander as he was among the many ambushed by bushwhackers. His son Bill found him tied to a tree and he had been shot at close range. Although he did survive the wounds, he was blinded by the attack. Later a table was made from the tree and later still, the table was thrown into a dry well.

Alexander Joyce died April 24, 1884. He and his wife Serena are buried in the Joyce Cemetery north of Goshen.

The court records of Rockingham County, North Carolina have numerous entries for Joyces. Some of the early records are listed as John Joyce Coon, John Joyce Possum, Thomas Joyce son of Coon, etc. Family tradition has it that two cousins (each named John, one the son of Alexander and the other the son of Thomas) went coon hunting. They had each taken a son with them. After the coon was caught, the sons started fighting about whose dog caught the coon. Observing the fight, one father remarked, "My son bites like a coon," and the other father said, "My son fights like a possum." Thereafter, members of one family were known as "coons" and the other as "possums."

Even now, 200 years after the big coon hunt, upon learning you are a Joyce relation, the first question asked is whether you are a coon or a possum. Be prepared!! Alexander Joyce of Rockingham County, North Carolina, Grainger County, Tennessee, and Washington County, Arkansas was more closely related to John Joyce *Possum*.

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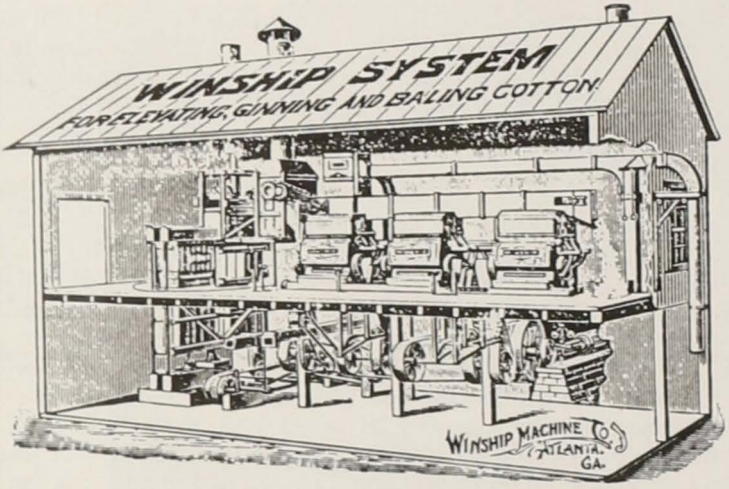

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WASHINGTON COUNTY JAILS

(Editor's Note: Over the past year, the county quorum court has struggled mightily with the problem of housing the county's prisoners. The following story from The Northwest Arkansas Times, ca 1950, is further evidence that "there is nothing new under the sun".)

When the white man brought his "civilization" to the wild frontier that was Northwest Arkansas in the early 1800s, he found himself in need of many things without which the Indians had existed before his arrival. One of these was jails.

At first there were only traders in the Indian territory; then adventurers and hunters made their appearance. Still later, a more stable class of people began arriving — families, in increasing numbers, who cleared the land, tilled the soil, and settled in small communities.

The arrival of this latter class created a need for government, peace officers and jails which had not existed in the earlier days. Washington County's first court was held in 1829, and that same year a crude courthouse was built. In 1837 a brick courthouse was built.

Sometime in this period, the county's first jail was also provided. It was no doubt small and primitive. But in 1839, County Judge Thomas Wilson commissioned Archibald Yell to contract for a new two-story jail, and the court appropriated $5,000 for the job.

Matthew Leeper contracted to build the jail. Work began in 1840. The jail was located on the southeast corner of Rock Street and College Avenue.

A description of the 1840 jail is given in the records of the Washington County Court of April 1840, in a memorandum of an agreement of Yell and Leeper. This set out the size of the jail as 42 by 22 feet from "out to out," with a wall 20 feet high.

A dungeon of 16 by 17 feet in the clear was provided. This part of the building had a 40-inch, triple wall — consisting of two outer stone walls, each 18 inches thick, with thick upright timbers between them. The lower floor had two windows, one in the end and the other in the south side of the dungeon, both three feet long and eight inches wide and barred or grated.

A plank partition separated the dungeon from the debtors' cell in the lower portion. The debtors' cell had a fireplace and a plank floor. A sheet-iron-lined door with double shutters two feet wide was provided downstairs.

The wall for the second story was only 18 inches thick, since that portion was used for the residence of the jailer and his family. The second floor was partitioned into two rooms, 16 by 22 feet and 23 by 22 feet. It had four windows in front and two in back with a fireplace in each of the two rooms. The second-floor ceiling was finished "after the manner of the framed office at the Bank," and the panel doors were a half-foot wider.

Leeper was allowed by the court to use timber from the "old jail" in constructing the new one. His general work was done for $4,333.13, with other work consuming the rest of the $5,000 appropriation. The county was taxed one-sixth mill to pay for the new jail.

This jail served the county for a number of years, but was destroyed by fire prior to 1870. When a new courthouse was built in 1870, the southwest corner was used as a jail.

In 1895, white men were the rule and not the exception in this area. The Indian population had migrated farther west. The process of civilizing had its effects, and the need for a larger jail to house criminals was manifest.

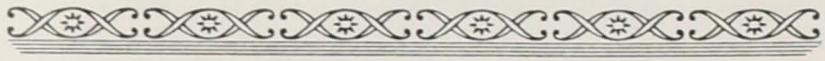
The Levying Court, made up of justices of the peace of Washington County, met October 10, 1895, and County Judge Frank Hill appointed a committee of J.J. Curry, W.D. Sharp and W.D. Parks to investigate the county jail and recommend whether to repair it or build a new one.

The following day, the committee submitted two reports, according to the Fayetteville (weekly) Democrat. One recommended construction of a new jail at a cost of $6,000; the other favored an appropriation to repair the old jail and provide cells in the Grand Jury room. The court adopted the proposal to build a new jail. It made a total of $24,050 in appropriations, including $6,000 for a jail construction fund. Judge Hill was authorized to name commissioners to buy a lot on which to build a jail.

The judge remarked to his court that the jail was in a "deplorable" state, and would accommodate at best only 12 prisoners, while "we have had from 15 to 25 for some time past, keeping them guarded and shackled in the vicinity of where they are working on the county roads." He said the county had a surplus of $9,000 that year.

On November 11, Judge Hill appointed J.M. Phillips as building commissioner to purchase a lot and cause to be erected on that lot a jail building at a cost not to exceed $6,000. In December, 1896, Phillips reported that the jail was in the process of erection at the foot of what is now East Mountain Street. Noting that the jail was situated near the north line of the lot on which it was located, Phillips also recommended that the county purchase the lot to the north of the jail lot, "fronting 61 feet on College Avenue and running back to the Spring Branch a distance of 759 feet." Purchase of this lot was advisable, Phillips told the court, to prevent any buildings being constructed so near the jail as to cause danger from fire and also to provide drainage and sewage for the jail. The lot was bought by the county for $500. (It later became the site for the present-day Legion Hut.)

The Democrat in its issue of January 21, 1897, reported that the new jail was not completed, but that most of the county prisoners had been moved into it. "The county is now feeding 34 prisoners," the paper said. "This is a record breaker."

This jail, a three-story stone structure, continues to serve Washington County. It is a home for the sheriff as well as a home for those who run afoul of the law. The offenses for which persons may be domiciled there have remained much the same through the years, but further marks of civilization have been made on the jail itself, which for instance now sports a three-way radio system which connects county squad cars with State Police over the state.

ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

For those of you who plan to visit Washington County this summer, the following information about the Washington County Historical Society may be helpful to you.

The Society has only one paid part-time employee, an office secretary. Thus we can keep the office open on a regular basis only from nine a.m. to twelve o'clock noon, Monday through Friday. These, of course, are the only hours when you can be sure of reaching someone by telephone: 501-521-2970.

Our offices are now located in the Old County Jail, 30 South College, the second building south of the county courthouse. As those of you who have visited recently are aware, there is still a lot to be done to make this building habitable — and even more, to maintain its aging facilities!

While our library genealogical records are, unfortunately, not as complete as we would like, we are glad to let you peruse what we have. The Fayetteville Public Library has all that we have and in some cases, more. They, of course, are open all day, six days a week.

Headquarters House (118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville) is open to visitors only on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons in June, July and August. Because of the difficulty of getting volunteers to act as guides, the hours are only from 2:00 to 4:00. However, special arrangements for groups to tour the house may be made by calling the Society offices.

The annual Ice Cream Social will be held in 1983 on August 20, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. on the lawn at Headquarters House. This is a very special occasion, and we urge all of you in the vicinity to plan to come. Headquarters House is, of course, open for viewing; there is a Gay 90's costume contest, a melodrama, and many other appropriate activities. Proceeds from this event are used to maintain Headquarters House and museum.

The Society also owns and operates the Sarah Ridge House at 230 West Center Street in Fayetteville. The rooms are rented as offices but the grounds and halls are open for visiting, with a special display on the history of the house in the entrance hall.

As is obvious, we are an unusually busy Historical Society and are constantly in need of volunteers to serve. If you have time — and interest — there are many ways you can help. Please volunteer!

Quarterly meetings are held in March, September, and December — the Ice Cream Social serving as the fourth meeting. The annual meeting is the one in December at which officers and directors are nominated and elected. The board of directors and committee chairmen meet each month in the Gregory Room of the Old Jail at noon on the third Tuesday of the month.

> Richer is he who learns to look through the eyes of men who have gone before, and adds to their vision the freshness of his own sight.
>
> *Kenneth L. Patton*

What a way to have to get her story for FLASHBACK!
But, LOVE, any means toward that end.
The editors are so appreciative.